Hafa Adai!

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'Everyone has a stake in rebooting economy' PAGE 2

Pangelinan found committing abuse of legal process. PAGE 5

75¢

IPI finances on shaky ground

» 1,066 people, mostly working at construction for casino/resort project, may be laid off

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Dotts

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC admits it's currently in a financially precarious situation, having difficulty even paying its power bills, trouble meeting its payroll, and faced with the possibility of a permanent shutdown.

IPI, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, filed a motion last Friday asking the U.S. District Court for the NMI to stay or suspend proceedings until 10 days after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issues an order resolving IPI's appeal of the court's judgment in connection with contractor Pacific Rim Land Development LLC's lawsuit.

IPI appealed to the Ninth

See IPI on Page 4

File photo shows Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC's casino in Garapan. KRIZEL TUAZON

AT A GLANCE

As of 6pm, May 24, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	165	1	166
Recovered	125	13	138
Active	35	1	23
Deaths	6*	0	6*

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	22	0	22
Recovered	13	0	13
Active	7	0	7
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested**			4,757

*Total includes a sailor from the USS *Theodore Roosevelt.*

**Total includes number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

Anti-COVID-19 protocols extend to prepositioned ships

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Protocols for social distancing and frequent handwashing as a means to prevent COVID-19 infections are in place not only on land but also on the prepositioned ships of the U.S. military's off the coast of Saipan.

According to Lt. Cmdr. Rick Moore, Joint Region Marianas spokesperson, he can only speak on the behalf of the seven prepositioned ships of the U.S. military but crewmembers on these ships have strict rules to follow to reduce the spread of COVID-19. This means limiting docking their ships, practicing

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PSS clears debt with teachers

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Public School System has cleared over $800,000 worth of debt it owed its teachers and staff after receiving the over $23 million from the Education Stabilization fund under the CARES Act.

Last Friday, PSS paid $504,409.88 for pay period 9 and $307,244.38 for pay period 10 after receiving the Education Stabilization funding, according to Education Commissioner Dr. Alfred Ada. That clears all the amounts that PSS owed its staff. "We cleared all

See PSS on Page 4

CNMI's PUA and FPUC plan OK'd

The U.S. Department of Labor has approved the CNMI's implementation plan for the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation programs

USDOL also approved an initial disbursement of $70.5 million for the PUA and FPUC programs in the CNMI.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced the approval on Saturday on his official Facebook page, saying that USDOL's Employment and Training Administration has given the CNMI the green flag in how it will dole out

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INSIDE

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Casa Urashima has reopened and is serving its bestselling spaghetti dishes for take-out.
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Actress Lori Loughlin has agreed to serve two months in prison for a college admissions scandal.
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Local

'Everyone has a stake in rebooting economy'

By IVA MAURIN
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres hopes that his creation of the 14-member Governor's Council of Economic Adviser would lead to everyone pitching in and buying into how the CNMI economy can be restarted and its borders reopened.

Speaking to reporters last week, Torres said his creation of the council is intended to make sure "that we all have a stake in this, that if the council suggests to open whatever businesses, and how to open those businesses, that everybody has a stake in it, and that we all move in that one direction."

The governor is looking forward to the council's conversation with the business community, particularly on setting up a timetable, and on how and what approach would be best to open businesses together. He also said that he is excited to get the council's recommendations.

Torres wants all stakeholders' to be involved in planning for the economy, stressing that "everything that we're doing, we're doing it with all the stakeholders' participation."

Torres abolished the Strategic Economic Development Council last Wednesday and created the council in its place as a body that will give him advice on the CNMI economy. The council, whose members are all unpaid, is expected to have its first meeting as a full body this week.

Confidence on appointees

Torres is confident in all 14 members of the council. TanHoldings chief executive officer Jerry Tan was the designated by the governor as his co-chair, with the other members being Sen. Frank S. Borja (R-Tinian), Rep. Ivan A. Blanco (R-Saipan), Michael S. Sablan, Roman "Bo" T. Palacios, Matthew Deleon Guerrero, Masato Tezuka, Alex Sablan, Joe C. Guerrero, Don J. Power, Marcie M. Tomokane, Alex B.K. Youn, Aubry Hocog, and Gary Sword.

"First off, I am very confident in everyone's leadership. I want to thank all of the members who are part of the Governor's Economic Council. Everyone, members and advisors, come from different walks of life, different background, but I do know that we all have the same interest in reopening CNMI the right way," he said.

With the council's recommendations, Torres is confident that the CNMI will open the right way and at the right pace. "I am excited with these advisors, and I'm very confident that we, the people in the CNMI, are in great hands with the advisers, especially also having Jerry Tan as our chairman of the council."

One of the members, KKMP's Sword, said he is honored to represent the media in the council, to make sure that all are working together to ensure that the islands survive, and that a new and improved CNMI can arise.

"This is an opportunity that doesn't come around very often, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for us to rebuild a community from nothing, destroyed by super typhoons, by the pandemic, but we're coming back stronger, bigger, and better," Sword added.

Slowly but surely

With tourism lying low, not just in the CNMI but worldwide, Torres acknowledges that, while he is hopeful, a slow growth for the economy is to be expected and that new industries are needed. "I think realistically, we need to embrace that our economy's [going to] grow back slowly. …That's [the] realistic approach," he said.

Diversification

With the CNMI's tourism industry on pause, Torres is encouraging other industries to come in, and help diversify the islands' economy.

"I encourage other industries to come to the island[s] and see how we can create jobs," he said. "…We would like to diversify our market here, especially the fact that tourism is [going to] take a while before we get back to where we were at before this virus."

The governor also highlighted agriculture and fishing, as important industries in the Commonwealth and is encouraging the development of call centers, with a security calling center now in place, and also revealed that there are a couple of personal protective equipment manufacturers interested in doing business in the CNMI.

Torres said how he would love to have the economy back to where it was before COVID-19, but with the CNMI now struggling to stay afloat, and with its main industry significantly impacted, the governor is calling for other industries to invest in the CNMI.

Local

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IPI questions hiring of 3rd lawyer in NY on motion

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC is questioning its seven former workers' hiring of a third lawyer at an hourly rate of $400 for what it says is a "fairly simple" motion for sanctions for violating discovery orders in connection with their lawsuit against IPI and its contractor and subcontractor.

IPI, through counsel Michael W. Dotts, took issue with the former workers' request for a $400 per hour payment for New York-based attorney Times Wang, without explaining why Wang should be awarded the same rate as Aaron Halegua for filing such a simple motion.

Halegua is also the New York-based counsel for the former workers. The other counsel is Saipan attorney Bruce Berline.

Dotts urged the U.S. District Court for the NMI to award Wang $300 per hour in attorneys' fees and costs, the same rate for Berline.

Dotts said the plaintiffs (former workers) are also asking for attorneys' fees and costs for Wang billed in block format, which Dotts say is inappropriate.

He said IPI does not dispute the reasonableness of the remaining requests for attorneys' fees and costs but, by conceding that attorneys' fees and costs are owed the plaintiffs, IPI is not waiving any prior objections or its right to appeal.

The plaintiffs asked the court to award them $61,934 in attorneys' fees in connection with their motion for sanctions.

Recently, U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona ordered IPI to pay a total of $29,459 in attorneys' fees and costs in connection with the seven ex-workers countermotion to compel IPI to produce some documents.

The latest request for award of $61,934 pertained to Manglona's order last April 16, finding IPI in civil contempt for violating the court's two orders regarding discovery in connection with the lawsuit filed against IPI and two others by the seven former workers.

Manglona granted the former workers' motion to sanction IPI and informed the parties in this case that if IPI fails to comply with the deadlines ordered that day, April 16, a monetary sanction of $2,000 a day will be imposed until IPI complies. The judge ordered IPI to file a certification of compliance to avoid sanctions.

In their motion for attorneys' fees and costs, the workers, through Halegua and Berline, said the $61,934 is reasonable, particularly given that IPI violated two court orders and the success of their motion upon which the court granted virtually all requested relief, including a finding of civil contempt against IPI.

Halegua is demanding $47,404 in attorney's fees for 118.51 hours of work at $400 rate an hour, while Berline is demanding $8,022 for 26.74 hours at $300 rate an hour. Halegua's paralegal, Jacob Kessler, is requesting $508 for 4.07 hours at $125 rate per hour. Wang is demanding $6,000 in attorney's fees for 15 hours of work at $400 rate an hour. Halegua and Berline said Wang, a 2011 graduate of New York University Law School and speaks Mandarin Chinese, provided significant assistance in preparing the workers' motion for sanctions.

The plaintiffs, who are now based in China, are suing IPI and its contractor, MCC International Saipan Ltd. Co., and subcontractor, Gold Mantis Construction Decoration (CNMI) LLC, over the alleged injuries they suffered during accidents at the worksite of IPI's casino/resort project in Garapan.

The plaintiffs are suing the defendants for alleged forced labor in violation of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act, forced labor in violation of the CNMI Anti-Trafficking Act, negligence, and liability for employees of subcontractor.

The plaintiffs alleged, among other things, that they were forced to work long hours for below minimum wage under extremely dangerous conditions at the casino-resort worksite.

In its response to the lawsuit, IPI, through counsel, said any wage claims by the plaintiffs are barred because they voluntarily illegally entered the CNMI to work.

May 21 was CNMI Armed Forces Day

In a proclamation signing last Thursday attended by military officials in the CNMI and their civilian counterparts in the CNMI government, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios proclaimed last May 21, 2020, as CNMI Armed Forces Day.

This was in accordance with President Donald Trump's proclamation of May 15 as Armed Forces Day, during which he invited all governors to "provide for the observance of Armed Forces Day within their jurisdiction each year in an appropriate manner designed to increase public understanding and appreciation of the Armed Forces of the United States."

"We encourage everyone in our community to acknowledge and honor the service, sacrifices, and contributions of our Armed Forces, both past and present, for what they have done and for what they do every day to support our islands and our great nation," states the proclamation that Torres and Palacios signed. "These soldiers, sailors, Marines, airmen, and coast guardsmen have endured many sacrifices to defend the freedoms that make our island and nation what it is today."

In 2004, the U.S Congress declared the month of May to be National Military Month for those who gave their lives in defense of freedom to honor men and women of all Armed Forces.

"Our island heritage and history, we remember the World War II battles fought in the Marianas and the struggles our people overcame. Everyone in the Marianas now enjoys such freedom that owes a lasting debt of gratitude to our Armed Forces," said Torres in the proclamation. ***(Chevy Alipio)***

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Defense Coordinating Officer Harry Elliott, Lt. Col. Richard Barcinas, Army Emergency Liaison Preparedness Officer Maj. Lee P. McPhatter, Ph.D, Special Assistant for Military Affairs Glenna SP. Reyes, and members of the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs staff.
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GCA hosts first drive-thru graduation

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

ARVIN S. DAYAO
Valedictorian

LYZELLE D. CASTILLO
Salutatorian

Grace Christian Academy held the CNMI's first drive-thru high school graduation ceremony in compliance with all the current directives in place for COVID-19, with Arvin S. Dayao and Lyzelle D. Castillo leading 20 graduating seniors last Friday.

The graduation ceremony, the islands' first such drive-thru high school graduation rites, ended with a parade. The ceremony, which was significantly shorter than normal, ended in less than an hour and had the graduates sit in their cars while they wait for their names to be called.

When the student was called, they would then walk up to the table at the center of the stage, pick up their trophies, awards, and their diploma, pose for a photo, and then walk back to their car before the next student is called.

According to Dayao, who was named valedictorian, the graduation ceremony was far from normal and was unexpected but it was overall still a special moment. "It's a sigh of relief. It wasn't the graduation I expected, but it was still a really special moment and it was just nice to share this moment with my class because I didn't expect this to happen," he said.

As part of a graduating class in the middle of a worldwide pandemic, Dayao encourages his fellow graduates to cherish every moment. "You really don't know what's going to happen anymore. I didn't expect this, but just be glad with what you have," he said.

Dayao will be attending Colby College in Maine and aims to major in biology and ultimately enter medical school.

Castillo, who was named the salutatorian, said that it's unfortunate that their class had to experience a pandemic and graduate in the midst of it, but it is also inspiration for future graduating classes that nothing should hinder their education.

"We're probably making history as the first class to graduate and succeed despite a pandemic. But I just want to encourage others that nothing should stop us from achieving success. I feel like all my hard work has paid off and I'm really thankful also for my parents. They're the reason I achieved all of this," she said.

Castillo plans to attend the University of Portland and major in biology.

One tests positive for COVID-19 in Guam

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

An individual who recently traveled to the continental United States and was staying in a government quarantine facility tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday in Guam.

According to the Joint Information Center in Guam, the new case was confirmed yesterday afternoon. A total of 22 individuals remain in isolation and are in stable condition. The Department of Public Health data shows that, of the 22 individuals, 14 are in home isolation, six are in an isolation facility, and two are in the military.

Additionally, Guam has been opening up slowly, which means that malls and churches have opened with new policies that will ensure social distancing.

The island's Catholic churches will again have Masses in church beginning May 30-31. Churches will not be able to exceed 50% capacity and social distancing will be required among attendees.

After more than two months of closure, Ross reopened at the Guam Premier Outlets and the Micronesian Malls, with social distancing and limited capacity inside.

To date, Guam has a total of 166 confirmed COVID-19 cases with 138 released from isolation.

SHIPS

From Page 1

social distancing, and sanitizing common spaces on the ships. That also includes crewmembers departing the ships only for medical or official business and using personal protective equipment.

"We continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and take appropriate steps to mitigate the risk to protect our sailors and civilian mariners," said Moore.

He assured that the Navy takes the health and wellbeing of their people seriously to help prevent the spread of the virus to U.S. territories and partner nations while also maintaining their warfighting readiness.

"Personnel embarking and disembarking the prepositioned ships will meet U.S. Pacific Fleet's requirements for Restriction of Movement prior to further movement," said Moore.

Additionally, Moore said that all personnel embarking on these U.S. Navy vessels are screened prior to boarding the ships. Members who show any symptoms will be referred to medical.

There are currently seven prepositioned ships in the Saipan harbor. They are officially called Maritime Prepositioning Squadron Three, or MPSRON 3.

Navy ship in Guam

Six days shy of being sidelined for two months in Guam due to a coronavirus outbreak among its crew, the aircraft carrier USS *Theodore Roosevelt* left last May 21. They have been there since March 27 after the number of crew members tested positive for COVID-10. More than 1,000 sailors had contracted the virus; many of them have since recovered. One crewmember later died.

The Navy announced earlier this week that some 3,000 sailors will continue on with the mission, while 1,800 others will remain in quarantine in Guam.

"We are scaling our manning on board based on our mission requirement," said Capt. Carlos Sardiello, *Theodore Roosevelt*'s commanding officer. "Carrier qualification requires fewer personnel than other missions, and bringing fewer sailors on board will enable enhanced social distancing while underway."

The sailors who tested negative had spent 14 days in quarantine at hotel sites outside the Navy base before being allowed to return to the aircraft carrier. Multiple sailors aboard the *Theodore Roosevelt* are also natives of Guam.The USS *Theodore Roosevelt* is the nation's fourth Nimitz-class aircraft carrier with a crew of nearly 5,000 sailors who support and conduct air operations at sea. The ship had left San Diego, California, for a scheduled Indo-Pacific deployment on Jan. 17.

PSS

From Page 1

the payrolls: payroll 8, payroll 9, and payroll 10. We received the $23 million last week," he said.

On top of clearing out the missed payrolls of teachers and other PSS personnel, PSS was also able to pay off its vendors.

With that problem resolved, the next step, Ada said, is the reopening of schools in September, which means lifting furloughs for teachers. "Twenty-three million dollars is a lot of money. Twenty-three million is enough to open and get by but I'm trying to do as much cost-saving as possible. Hopefully, we don't go through another payless payday," he said.

With the COVID-19 pandemic still ongoing, though, the plan to immediately lift the furlough has changed, Ada said. Instead, all furloughed personnel would remain furloughed until Aug. 1. That means there is a possibility that teachers may not receive their summer pay, he said.

Ada explained that if summer pay is considered income by the Department of Labor, teachers and staff will not qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance. "The summer pay, we are awaiting the legal opinion from the Department of Labor because it's summer pay, it's money that's supposed to go to the teachers but there's a difference of opinion that it is considered an income wage. If we release the summer pay, it's going to be considered income, even though that was owed to them according to their contract because they're on a 190-day teaching contract," he said.

If it were up to him, Ada would like to pay teachers their summer pay.

PUA

From Page 1

the unemployment assistance, which applies only to U.S. citizens. The CNMI Department of Labor has asked USDOL if legal foreign workers can also avail of this aid but it has yet to receive a response.

"Lt. Gov. [Arnold I.] Palacios and I want to thank everyone at USDOL ETA who have been working closely with our Secretary of Labor Vicky Benavente and her team at CNMI DOL," said Torres. "We are eager to get these benefits out to employees who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic."

"We also want to commend Secretary Benavente and her team at CNMI DOL for all their hard work to fulfill the requirements of the program since I executed the CNMI's agreement with USDOL on March 29, immediately after President Trump signed the CARES Act into law," added Torres.

Benavente herself looks forward to getting "this much-needed assistance to employees in the CNMI."

"I also want to recognize our hard-working team at the CNMI Department of Labor for their hard work and dedication. We will be pushing out this program very soon and will be making announcements before we open the application period," she added.

For the latest contact information and guidance, visit the CNMI DOL website at marianaslabor.net or the Office of the Governor website at www.governor.gov.mp. ***(PR)***

IPI

From Page 1

Circuit to reverse Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona's order last April 23 for IPI to pay its former contractor, Pacific Rim, the principal amount of $5.65 million for breach of contract.

Dotts said IPI believes, in good faith, that it has a basis to appeal the judgment. "Yet if the judgment becomes enforceable while the appeal is pending, IPI will be unable to pay it, and will likely have to close permanently," Dotts said.

The lawyer said this situation is due largely to the fact that COVID-19 has caused IPI to close its business and that IPI barely has the resources to cover payroll, taxes, and utilities. He said IPI does not have the resources to post a bond, or to pay the judgment.

However, Dotts said, IPI has leasehold interests in real property it can post to secure payment.

Attaching *Saipan Tribune*'s news article and a declaration of IPI director of treasury Francis Mafnas, the lawyer cited that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. cut off power to the casino in Garapan and at IPI's office at Vestcor on Capital Hill last May 15 for failing to pay its bills.

Last April 24, IPI missed payroll 9 and made a partial payment on that payroll last May 10, he said. Part of payroll 10 was paid last May 8. Today, he said, IPI barely found the funds to pay the rest of payroll 9 and 10 and all of payroll 11.

Last Friday, Pacific Rim will be able to begin collecting from IPI on the partial summary judgment of $6.8 million, unless the District Court grants IPI's motion to stay proceedings pending appeal.

He said there are 1,066 people on Saipan working for IPI. Especially during COVID-19, the people of Saipan rely on paychecks from IPI to put food on their tables for their families and to take care of the *man'amko* while they practice social distancing from younger adults, he said.

Dotts said IPI will be irreparably injured without a stay. He said IPI is barely able to operate during the COVID-19 pandemic and if IPI's accounts are cleaned out to pay the judgment, IPI will not likely make payroll for 1,066 employees.

Dotts said even after paying its current CUC bill, CUC threatens to shut off power without full payment.

He said IPI has had trouble meeting its payroll and even when it makes full payment, it falls behind again on later payments.

Dotts said if IPI has trouble making an electricity bill or meeting payroll, how can it pay a $6.8-million judgment?

"Failing to stay proceedings will only exacerbate IPI's current financial distress," he said.

IPI is willing to place about $9 million worth of property under mortgage in favor of Pacific Rim. Dotts said this mortgage will guarantee that if IPI does not prevail in its appeal, Pacific Rim will be able to collect on the judgment.

Dotts said not issuing a stay will substantially injure other parties not involved in these proceedings—its 1,066 workers on Saipan. "Failing to stay the proceedings pending appeal will not just put IPI at risk of further financial distress, it will also put the people of Saipan at risk of layoffs, empty pockets, lack of food and shelter, and increased crime and violence," the lawyer said.

He said denying a stay pending appeal will not just force IPI to close its doors, but it will also leave 1,066 people on Saipan without employment during COVID-19, an international pandemic that will last in the near term.

Should the court deny stay pending appeal, Dotts said not only will IPI have to shut down its casino and other businesses, but 1,066 employees will face layoffs. "If this happens, the people of Saipan will not have opportunities for employment elsewhere because of the recession resulting from COVID-19," Dotts.

According to court records, Pacific Rim and IPI entered into a construction contract on Feb. 13, 2018, for the Pacific Rim to build a hotel-casino complex in Garapan.

Pacific Rim began work on the project, but eventually stopped because IPI did not pay it the amounts owed under the contract.

IPI recently filed counterclaims against Pacific Rim for promissory fraud, fraud in the inducement as to the promissory note, violation of Consumer Protection Act, and breach of contract.

IPI, through counsel Cong Nie, alleged, among other things, that Pacific Rim hired a kitchen helper and a delivery man and made them work in IPI's casino-resort project in Garapan as carpenters.

Pangelinan is found committing abuse of legal process again

- **Pangelinan intentionally interfered into a probate of a $3.2M estate to get majority of the money**
- **Filed almost 500 pages of frivolous motions, declarations**
- **80-year-old landowner testified how interference caused her distress**

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has found that John Sablan Pangelinan, who has already been declared a vexatious litigant by the federal court, has abused the legal process by interfering in the probate of the $3.2 million estate of his deceased cousin.

In an order Thursday, Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho ruled that Secundina Untalan Pangelinan (Secundina) and her daughter, Selina Marie Pangelinan (Selina), have proven by evidence that John Sablan Pangelinan (John) committed the tort of abuse of process in an estate.

Camacho said that Secundina and Selina have proven that John also committed the tort of intentional interference with another's performance of their own contract by tortuously interfering in the contractual relations between plaintiffs and Peak Development (CNMI) LLC.

The judge will issue a separate order setting a deadline for Secundina and Selina to file their request for damages and/or other remedies against John.

Secundina and Selina are suing John for allegedly abusing the legal system to extort money from them by interfering in the probate of the estate of Secundina's deceased husband, Norberto Pangelinan (Norberto), despite not being a creditor.

Secundina and Selina, through counsel Janet H. King, are suing John for abuse of process and interference with contract. Secundina asked the court to hold John liable to pay them damages, interest, and court costs.

In his order last Thursday, Camacho found that, based on the testimonies and exhibits, there was nothing in John's relationship with plaintiffs that justified his interference. Camacho found that John's interference in the confirmation deed of lands in Tanapag and the final contract was "improper."

Because John "intentionally" and "improperly" interfered with the performance of the contracts between plaintiffs and Norberto's estate in their dealings with Peak Development, John is subject to liability to plaintiffs for the loss that plaintiffs' experienced as a result of his interference, the judge said, and that John's interference caused plaintiffs' performance of the contracts to be more expensive and burdensome.

Camacho

Also, because of that interference, plaintiffs are unable to perform their part of the final contract while John's meritless claim in the probate action remains unsolved with finality, Camacho said, adding that John's act of interfering in the probate action did not advance any interest of social value.

In fact, the judge said, John knowingly filed a meritless claim and testified that he wants all the benefits to himself because he was the only one that filed a claim in the probate case, thus excluding all of Norberto's many cousins and other blood relatives.

The bench trial in the plaintiffs' lawsuit against John was held last Dec. 2 to 12. King appeared as counsel for the plaintiffs. John represented himself. Secondina and Selina, as well as John, testified at the trial.

Secundina is the administratrix of the estate of Norberto E. Pangelinan, who owned several properties, including lots in Tanapag. He was Secondina's husband and Selina's Pangelinan's biological father.

King

According to Camacho's findings, Norberto agreed in 2015 to lease the Tanapag properties to Peak Development (CNMI) LLC for 55 years for a sum of $3.2 million. On Aug. 14, 2015, three weeks after Norberto signed the lease, he died. One month after Norberto's death, plaintiffs and Peak Development entered into a confirmation deed.

The deed stated that the Tanapag properties "shall be sold to [Peak Development] by [plaintiffs in fee simple] on the same terms and for the same conditions as Norbert agreed to sell the property to [Peak Development]." In October 2015, Secondina initiated the probate action to finalize the pending land transactions.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

Eric Ignacio Camacho Sablan
Petitioner,
Vs.
Mananad Swan Sablan
Respondent,
FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION NO. 19-0536

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 506273 CK Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 14th day of April, 2020

/s/ Clerk of Court

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6804 • www.marianas.edu

Building Demolition Project:
Buildings A, A1, B, B1 C, D, E, F, G, H, I, Q, R & S

INVITATION FOR BIDS
NMC IFB 20-0002

Northern Marianas College (The College) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the building demolition project at the NMC Saipan campus.

Specifications and Scope of Work packets may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. O, commencing Wednesday, May 27, 2020 between the hours of 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.** for the electronic packet, please send request to Anita Camacho (anita.camacho@marianas.edu).

Mandatory Pre-bid conference is scheduled on June 16, 2020 at 9:00 am. NMC continues to practice social distancing due to the ongoing COVID19 restrictions. The pre-bid conference will take place through Zoom Video - Conferencing Platform. Zoom ID No.: 928 5800 5961.

Electronic Bid submissions:
NMCIFB20-0002@marianas.edu
Due Date and Time: 10:00 am, June 30, 2020, Chamorro Standard Time (ChST).

Bids, hard copies submission:
Procurement & Property Management Office, Bldg. O, As Terlaje Campus
Due Date and Time: 10:00 am, June 30, 2020, (ChST).

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through US Department of Education, Emergency Assistance to Institution of Higher Education Grant, award no. P938T190005.
In accordance with Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, Local Preference is not available to local businesses for this procurement.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

Approved by:

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Manager

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Website: www.cnmicasinocommission.com
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

AGENDA

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, May 28, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. However, pursuant to Governor Torres' Executive Orders No. 2020-004 and No. 2020-006, the Commission meeting will be conducted via videoconference.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes: April 30, 2020

II. REPORTS:
- A. Report by the Interim Chairman
- B. Report by the Acting Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:
- A. Casino Licensee -- Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI") -- Updates:
  1. Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR"):
     - a) Update on IPR's Construction Project
     - b) Update on re-internment of ancestral remains
  2. IPI Personnel:
     - a) Proposed Organizational Chart
     - b) Resident Employment Objectives
     - c) Status of Employee Payroll
     - d) Update on the Operations & Reopening Plan
  3. Responsible Gaming Program
  4. Compliance Committee Report
  5. IPI Financial Matters
- B. Other Miscellaneous Matters

V. OLD BUSINESS:
- A. Update on House Bill 21-11, HS1, SD1, SD3
- B. Other Old Business Matters

VI. NEW BUSINESS:
- A. Election of Officers (Term May 15, 2020 through April 30, 2021) Positions: Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Media Relations/Public Affairs
- B. Schedule of CCC Meetings for the remainder of 2020
- C. Other New Business Matters

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
- A. Report by IPI on Financial and Compliance Matters
- B. Report by Legal Counsel
- C. Report by the CCC Audit and Compliance Division
- D. CCC Personnel Matters

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this agenda and take action on the amended agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (b). Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912 (a)(7) and 1 CMC §9912 (c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary. For those interested in joining or attending the videoconference, please contact the Commission at info@cnmicasinocommission.com for instructions on how to log-in to the conference site.

/s/ Ramon M. Dela Cruz
Interim Chairman

WiFi on Wheels expands free WiFi access

After a trial run in the Kagman area, the CNMI Public School System's WiFi on Wheels, or WOW, program will be expanding free wireless internet to students and families in the following areas starting tomorrow, May 26:

■ **Tuesdays and Wednesdays:** Central cluster from 9:30am to 11:30am (Locations: Garapan Round House, Minatchom Attdao, 13 Fisherman Pavilion, Mt. Carmel Church Open Field, San Vicente Roundhouse)

■ **Thursdays and Fridays**: Southern cluster from 9:30am to 11:30am (Locations: Dandan Baseball Field, Kobler Basketball Court, San Antonio Basketball Court, Kobler Park Across Tottotville, CPA Airport Field)

■ **Mondays (starting June 1**): Northeastern cluster from 9:30am to 11:30am (Locations: Santa Soledad Church Field, Capital Hill Baseball Field, Kagman Community Center, San Roque Church, Tanapag Youth Center)

WOW initiative

Due to COVID-19, many students are relying on learning from home, but not every family has equitable access to the internet. Therefore, the WOW initiative was developed to allow the continuation of learning enrichment, communication, and access to information for students and community members who do not have free access to the internet. PSS has equipped its school buses with WiFi capabilities and will mobilize them to locations throughout Saipan, with Tinian and Rota launched on June 1. Community members must bring their own devices to connect to the free WiFi, and content filtering is programmed to avoid access to inappropriate sites.

Maintain social distancing

The WOW Initiative will be practicing social distancing and safety measures for the protection of the public. Visitors are encouraged to drive to the locations and connect to the internet while remaining in their cars. Walkers are also permitted within the vicinity but must wear a mask or face covering and avoid close contact with others.

Additional information

For more information about the WOW Initiative, visit the Office of the Commissioner of Education, located on Capital Hill in Building # 1211, or call 664-3845. Updates will be provided on the CNMI PSS Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/cnmipss/.

The PSS WOW Initiative would not be possible without the partnerships with the Department of Public Lands, Youth Affairs Office, Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, Docomo Pacific, and IT&E. ***(PR)***

NEWS BRIEFS

Scheduled water service interruption today

There will be a scheduled water service interruption today, May 25, 2020, from 9am to 1pm in Papago, San Vicente, Dandan, and Obyan. The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. will be repairing a leak on a service lateral on Isa Drive across the Lao Lao Bay Road. Water service to the affected areas will resume after. However, the Obyan area will resume on water scheduled hours daily from 1pm to 3pm.

For the safety of the men and women at the jobsite, motorists are advised to take alternative routes or proceed with caution when passing the westbound shoulder lane.

CUC urges customers in these areas to fill up their back up water storage tanks and continue to practice water conservation during the dry season.

Contact the CUC Customer Call Center to report leaks for repairs. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor its Facebook page for the latest updates. ***(PR)***

Guam CHamoru commission meeting set

The *Kumisión i Fino' CHamoru yan i Fina'nå'guen i Historia yan i Lina'la' iTaotao Tåno'* (Commission on CHamoru Language and the Teaching of the History and Culture of the Indigenous People of Guam) will hold its second May monthly meeting on May 28, 2020, Thursday, from 12:30pm to 3:30pm at the Guam Museum conference room, in Hågatña. Call Roland Blas, Kumisión secretary, for special accommodations and agenda at 480-4047 or email at rolandblas1973@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

4.9-magnitude quake hits Agrihan

At 9:12am on May 22 2020, a report of a 4.9-magnitude earthquake occurred 45 kilometers east-southeast of Agrihan in the Northern Marianas. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. ***(PR)***

4.5-magnitude temblor on Pagan

At 11:15pm, May 18, 2020, a report of a 4.5-magnitude earthquake occurred 65 km south-southwest of Pagan in the Northern Marianas. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings issued by PTWC. ***(PR)***

Merizo quake at 4.7-magnitude

At 9:42pm, May 19, 2020, a report of a 4.7-magnitude earthquake occurred 122 km west-southwest of Merizo Village, Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings issued by PTWC. ***(PR)***

Free federal contracting webinars

The Guam Procurement Technical Assistance Center is offering free webinars every Tuesday and Thursday in May. Webinars run from 10am to 11am and will be conducted via Zoom. Links to the live webinar and the webinar evaluation will be emailed to all registered attendees 15 minutes before the start of the webinar.

■ May 26—Cybersecurity: Federal Contractor Responsibilities-Cybersecurity is a national security issue. We will discuss what Federal contractors can do to make sure they are complying with DOD requirements with respect to keeping data protected. DOD's Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) will be discussed.

■ May 28—Teaming and Joint Ventures – What are they and which is right for your business? The Guam PTAC will discuss the federal regulations related to these arrangements and discuss ways to use these arrangements effectively.

Register at http://guamptac.com/news-and-events.php. ***(PR)***

THINGS TO KNOW

As of May 24, 2020. All information may change without prior notice. For corrections and additions to this list, send an email to editor@saipantribune.com or call 235-6397 or 235-2440.

Limited NMI Judiciary hours

The CNMI Judiciary will be closed today, May 25, 2020, Memorial Day, and courthouses and facilities will be open on a limited basis until Wednesday, July 1, 2020.

The CNMI Judiciary will then be closed again on the designated austerity day of July 2, 2020; and on July 3, 2020, which will be observed as a holiday for Independence Day, July 4, 2020.

The CNMI Judiciary gave notice about its schedule in the week ahead, while also citing the continuing health and safety concerns associated with COVID-19

Judiciary personnel continue to work within the facilities, with some teleworking at designated sites consistent with COVID Order 3. Visit the Judiciary's website at www.nmijudiciary.com for court information and www.cnmilaw.org to review its latest order.

For details, click on **link** provided at www.saipantribune.com.

CDA continues services, support for clients, public

The Commonwealth Development Authority remains committed to provide services and support safely, responsibly, and effectively for its clients and the public to ensure confidence in our efforts to protect the safety and health of our clients, employees, and the public, while supporting a return to a more resilient and robust CNMI economy. For more details, click on **link** at www.saipantribune.com.

SFA raffle draw postponed to December

The Tasi to Table Youth Fishing Club and the Saipan Fishermen's Association have rescheduled the raffle slated for July 2020 to Dec. 12, 2020, at 3pm, at the Smiling Cove Marina on Saipan. Persons need not be present to win. Winners will be contacted to pick up prizes. The grand prize is a brand new 16-foot Morning Star aluminum hull boat with a 60hp 4-stroke outboard motor that comes with a trailer, Bimini top, hand-held VHF radio, navigation lights, fuel tank, life jackets and emergency flare set. A complete boat package was originally to be offered during the SFA's 36th annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament slated for July 2020. For more details, click on link at www.saipantribune.com.

Updated Government Resource list

The CNMI government has issued an updated government resource listing as of May 19, 2020, which includes all government offices and agencies that are operational and offering services to the public during the governor›s public health emergency. See Page 10 of today's *Saipan Tribune*. For additional details, click on link at www.saipantribune.com.

JKPL reopens with limited services

Effective yesterday, May 26, 2020, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library facility reopened for limited public services by appointment only to ensure health and safety of our patrons. Also, effective yesterday, the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library hours of operation will be from Tuesday to Friday, from 9am to 4pm. For more details, click on **link** at www.saipantribune.com.

CUC Customer Center hours

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public of its new business hours for the CUC Customer Center. The center will be open Monday through Friday, from 7:30 am to 3pm to assist customers with their CUC accounts and/or payment to CUC/ prepaid load purchase.

Customers are also encouraged to use the following options for CUC bill payments:

- For online payments, log into www.cucgov.org
- For pay-by-phone, dial 1-855-729-2282
- Other locations for CUC bill payment: Bank of Saipan, Bank of Guam, Bank of Hawaii

For emergencies, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) and monitor CUC's Facebook page for the latest updates.

OVR resumes normal office hours

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation's office hours have resumed back to Monday to Friday, from 7:30am to 4:30pm.

Modified VR services during the COVID-19 pandemic continue to be in effect. Individuals needing to apply for OVR services are still encouraged to reach out to OVR via phone at (670) 322-6537 / 6538. A staff member will provide further information on our modified processes.

If you have access to the internet and would like more information, visit www.ovrgov.net to view OVR requirements. If you do not have access to the internet, inform our offices and an information/ referral/orientation packet will be mailed to you.

BECQ announces updated hours of operation

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has announced that they are now providing services to the public from Monday to Friday, 9am – 3pm, during the current government shutdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

BECQ will be practicing social distancing and safety measures for the protection of their visitors and staff. The designated visitor's entrance will be the BECQ main entrance and visitors parking will be in the front of the BECQ building. For details, click on link at www.saipantribune.com

FAQs: Employee Retention Credit under the CARES Act

The Employee Retention Credit under the CARES Act encourages businesses to keep employees on their payroll. The refundable tax credit is 50% of up to $10,000 in wages paid by an eligible employer whose business has been financially impacted by COVID-19. For details, go to https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/faqs-employee-retention-credit-under-the-cares-act.

How Trump admin is supporting the CNMI

The Trump administration outlines how it is supporting the people of the CNMI in this time of the COVID-19 pandemic. For details, click on link at www.saipantribune.com.

USDA outlines telehealth service changes

The U.S. Department of Agriculture issues a summary of key service changes to increase the use of telehealth in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. These measures include allowing rural health clinics and federally qualified health centers to serve as "distant site" providers, increasing the types of services that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services can deliver via telehealth, and allowing certain telehealth services to be delivered to Medicare recipients by phone. For details, go to https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDARD/bulletins/289d418.

USDA RD takes steps to help

USDA Rural Development has taken a number of immediate actions to help rural residents, businesses and communities affected by the COVID-19 outbreak. Rural Development will keep our customers, partners, and stakeholders continuously updated as more actions are taken to better serve rural America. Visit www.rd.usda.gov/coronavirus for more information. Or click on https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDARD/bulletins/2894700.

SBA Fact Sheet

The U.S. Small Business Administration has issued a "Fact Sheet for the CNMI" about the Paycheck Protection Program and Economic Injury Disaster Loans. Read it by clicking on the link at www.saipantribune.com.

Commerce Department in operation

The CNMI Department of Commerce will continue to provide services to the CNMI business community via means of teleworking.

For direct support and services, the CNMI is advised to contact the support team via the department's website at info@commerce.gov.mp and indicate the attention to the respective division or section for the appropriate services. See DOC advisory at the link at www.saipantribune.com.

FBI alert vs online scams

FBI issue an alert to the public to be on the lookout for scams that exploit the current COVID-19 pandemic. See FBI advisory at the link on www.saipantribune.com.

Process for mass testing

Mass testing for COVID-19 is ongoing at the Saipan International Airport. The test is free. People interested in being tested for COVID-19 can request for an appointment for specimen collection on the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. website at https://chcc.gov.mp/covid19testing.php or over the phone through the COVID-19 Info Line. For more information, see link at www.saipantribune.com.

Four NMC ROTC cadets win awards

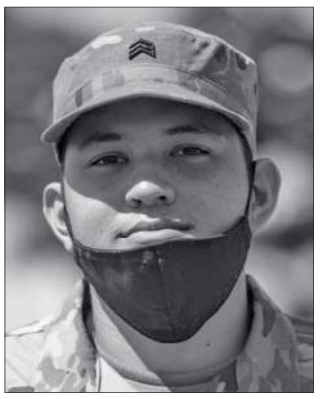
Several cadets of the Northern Marianas College's Reserve Officers Training Corps program were presented with top awards at an annual awards ceremony held Friday, May 22, in coordination with the University of Guam ROTC Program.

The awards were handed in an online ceremony attended by NMC interim president Frankie Eliptico, UOG president Tom Krise, Lt. Col. Tom Anderson, who is the professor of Military Science and director of NMC's ROTC program.

The "Top Cadet" award was awarded to the best freshman and sophomore at NMC, as well as the best overall cadet in the NMC ROTC program. The "Top Cadet" award at the freshman level was won by NMC cadet Kody Babauta, who graduated from Saipan Southern High School. The award winner from the sophomore class was NMC cadet

Babauta

Magallano



Pangelinan

Japor

Bert Magallano, a fellow graduate of Saipan Southern High School, who said that "the person who was most helpful to me was [NMC ROTC instructor] Capt. Thomas Vu. …I was interested in the program before meeting him, but his mentorship, motivation, and character has lit up an even bigger appetite in me to become a better version of myself."

Their award is conferred upon the cadets who display outstanding performance, commitment, and dedication to the ROTC program, and who best demonstrate the potential to serve as a leader in our Army. Additionally, one NMC cadet won the coveted "Spirit" award, which recognizes the cadet who best exemplifies the concept of service to the unit, the community, and to our nation.

The "Top Cadet of the Program" award was earned by NMC cadet Gavin Pangelinan, who also graduated from Saipan Southern High School. "I couldn't have come this far without my peers in NMC ROTC," said Pangelinan. "I look forward to the bright futures that lie ahead of us, and the memories we will make along the way."

The "Spirit" award recipient for NMC ROTC was cadet Sean Japor, who graduated from Marianas High School. Japor acknowledged that what keeps him motivated is "being with cadets who help me through the struggles, and succeeding together in the end." The "Spirit" award is sponsored by USAA and Japor received a Leatherman multitool, along with the plaque.

According to Anderson, the NMC awardees "are a great example of the commitment and motivation of all of the cadets in the program. They all work so well together, motivating each other to be the best leaders they can be. It's so much fun to be a part of their growth and development as young people and as leaders."

"We are proud of the students and their achievement," said Eliptico. "Their commitment and dedication are an amazing inspiration for other students at NMC and for our CNMI community."

NMC's ROTC program is the premiere leadership development program in the CNMI, producing dynamic leaders for the CNMI, the Pacific, and the United States of America. The program is accepting new applicants. To learn more about the UOG ROTC program at NMC, email zerlyn.taimanao@marianas.edu. ***(PR)***

Coast Guard cutter patrols seas off the NMI

By CHIEF PETTY OFFICER SARA MUIR
U.S. COAST GUARD DISTRICT 14 HAWAII PACIFIC

SANTA RITA, Guam—The crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Kiska* concluded a successful 18-day patrol in support of counter-Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported fishing and regional security operations in the Northern Marianas and Western Pacific in mid-May.

"I greatly appreciate the opportunity to extend U.S. and Coast Guard presence within Sector Guam's area of responsibility," said Lt. Brenden Kelley, the cutter's commanding officer. "Our presence in the area shows our partners the Coast Guard's enduring efforts to provide search and rescue response, safety in the marine industry, and oversight of important economic resources during worldwide disease response measures. I also want to highlight the high crew performance, especially in light of the COVID-19 precautions taken by all hands."

Kiska's crew protected U.S. fisheries and sovereignty by patrolling the region by conducting maritime security and law enforcement patrols in the Northern Mariana Island chain and conducting fisheries boardings along the west and southwest part of the U.S. exclusive economic zone under federal fisheries guidelines and the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission. Inspecting foreign-flagged fishing vessels for compliance of international fisheries regulations under the WCPFC promotes regional maritime governance and sustainability.

U.S. COAST GUARD
The crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Kiska* patrols off Guam on May 9, 2020.

U.S. COAST GUARD
The crew of the Coast Guard cutter *Kiska* conducts small boat operations off the CNMI on May 8, 2020.

"Training is also an important component of underway time and affects our readiness," said Kelley. "The team aboard *Kiska* knocked out officer of the deck, basic engineering, and casualty drills as well as navigation, gunnery, and towing exercises. Our thanks to the Navy Coastal Riverine Group for their participation."

In addition to gaining skills, Coast Guard crews must remain current on those competencies they have achieved. During this underway period, "we validated currencies for coxswain, crewman, and shipboard launch and recovery of our small boat. These are essential mission skills," he added.

While patrolling over 2,333 square nautical miles (2,685 statute miles), the Kiska's law enforcement team boarded a Taiwanese-flagged vessel 11 miles outside the U.S. EEZ on the high seas and verified their compliance with all applicable regulations and conservation management measures.

"The ongoing presence of a Coast Guard cutter in this part of the Pacific to assist in determining compliance with conservation management measures established by the WCPFC demonstrates the U.S. commitment to the region and our partners," said Kelley. "The *Kiska* is one of the last 110-foot Island Class patrol boats in operation and continues to serve the Pacific admirably."

The *Kiska* will be joined by, and eventually replaced by, 154-foot fast response cutters, the first of which is due in Guam later this year.

The WCPFC is an international body made up of 43 nations and international organizations. Members agree to allow the 13 countries in the pact to board and record any potential violations on their nationally flagged vessels. The findings go to the WCPFC, who notifies the vessel's flag state of the suspected infraction for further investigation.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

A crowd in space: Tens of thousands of satellites planned for orbit

Space, that final frontier, could become very crowded very soon.

There are an estimated 2,200 satellites orbiting the Earth at present, but telecommunications companies are launching dozens of new satellites regularly in hopes of providing high-speed broadband internet access to the entire planet.

Just how many satellites are we talking about? London-based OneWeb planned to launch nearly 400 this year and ultimately have 650 in place. Elon Musk's SpaceX has put 240 into orbit since last spring and could have 1,000 more launched by the end of the year. The company hopes to deploy as many as 42,000 satellites for its Starlink internet system.

Not to be left out of the game, Amazon plans to create its own space-based internet system, Project Kuiper, with the launch of more than 3,000 satellites.

That's a lot of satellites that could fill the skies over the next decade. Now would be the time for the formation of an international organization—composed of satellite companies, scientists and government representatives—that would provide some control over how many satellites orbit the Earth.

While providing global internet access would open the doors to nearly 3 billion people who are currently offline, the launch of these "megaconstellations" of satellites has scientists and space officials worried about the impact of so many orbiting devices.

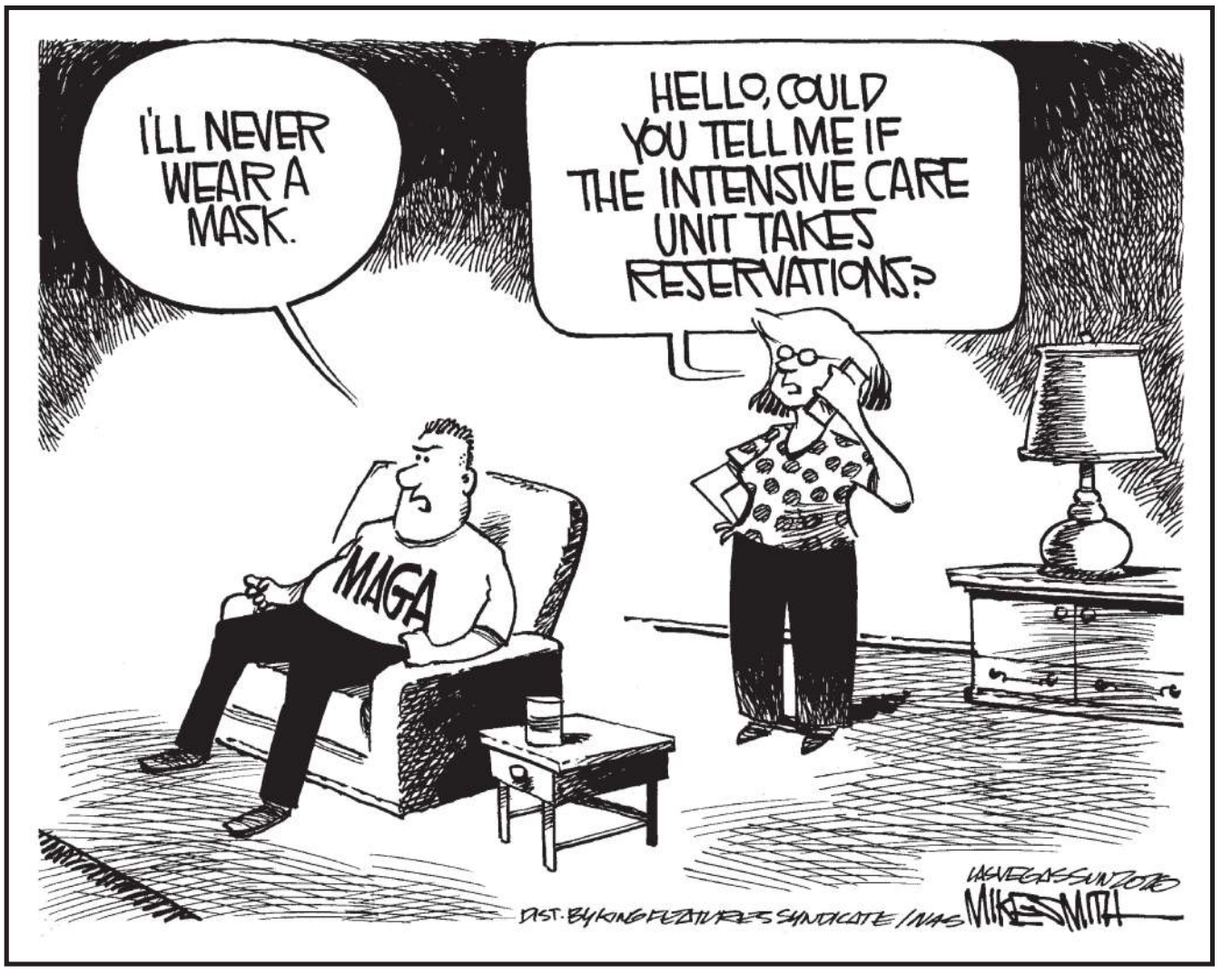
Some scientists fear that the sheer number of satellites could blot out the stars to the point where observations of the universe through Earth telescopes would be nearly impossible. They could also affect astronomy research by disrupting radio frequencies used for deep-space observation.

And there's also the concern about the amount of space junk that could be floating around. There are already millions of pieces of junk—from abandoned satellites or pieces of spacecraft—in space. Crowding the skies with tens of thousands of new satellites increases the risk of more pieces falling off, as well as the possibility the debris would strike other satellites. In the late '70s, NASA scientist Donald Kessler put forth a theory—the Kessler effect—that the floating debris could create a catastrophic chain of collisions that would produce a field of space junk and hinder space travel.

Most astronomers doubt there is a real danger from the Kessler effect, but controlling the path of satellites and avoiding collisions will take considerably more vigilance. Earlier this year, the possibility of two satellites colliding over Pittsburgh drew wide attention. A NASA official said that if thousands more satellites are placed in orbit, collision avoidance maneuvers would increase from "three a day to eight an hour."

The good news is that before companies launch satellites, they have to present plans to their respective country's reg-

See TENS on Next Page


I'LL NEVER WEAR A MASK.
HELLO, COULD YOU TELL ME IF THE INTENSIVE CARE UNIT TAKES RESERVATIONS?
MAGA
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MIKE SMITH

Trump is right to close US skies to Russian spies

By ELI LAKE
Bloomberg News

Eli Lake is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering national security and foreign policy. He was the senior national security correspondent for the Daily Beast and covered national security and intelligence for the Washington Times*, the* New York Sun *and* UPI*.*

President Donald Trump is preparing to exit his second arms-control treaty with Russia since taking the oath of office, and the opposition is already in high dudgeon. "This is insane," tweeted former CIA director Michael Hayden. "Another shortsighted Trump move to abandon a treaty that includes many close allies," tweeted Samantha Power, former ambassador to the United Nations.

But Trump's decision is the right one—both in the details and on principle.

The deal in question is the Open Skies treaty, signed in 1992, which allows U.S. and Russian spy planes to fly over military installations and weapons facilities. The aim is to give the 35 nations that are now members confidence that their adversaries are keeping their arms-control commitments.

In theory, it's a good idea. Overhead surveillance is one way to verify more substantive arms control agreements with Russia. It also gives a baseline for military planners, providing a data set that shows what peacetime deployment looks like. The big flaw in the arrangement is that the one party that all the others must worry about—Russia—is a serial violator of international agreements.

Consider Moscow's recent record. When Russian special operations units invaded Crimea and later Eastern Ukraine in 2014, President Vladimir Putin was violating a 1994 pledge to protect and respect the territorial integrity of Ukraine. The Ukrainians got these commitments in exchange for relinquishing the Soviet-era nuclear arsenal stationed on their territory.

The same pattern was repeated by Russia with regard to the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces, or INF, treaty. Russia largely complied with the part of the treaty that eliminated a class of short- and medium-range nuclear weapons from Europe from its signing in 1987 to about 2008. But in that year, Russia began testing a ground-launched cruise missile that violated the ranges set by the INF treaty. For 10 years, the U.S. tried to bring Russia back into compliance, but Putin kept escalating, eventually deploying banned missiles with ranges that could hit Europe. So in October 2018, after NATO allies publicly acknowledged that Russia was in material breach of its commitments, the U.S. announced it would be withdrawing.

A similar story can be told about the Open Skies treaty. When it took effect, in 2002, Russia largely abided by it. But during former President Barack Obama's administration, the U.S. found its flights were restricted over suspected facilities in Russia—even as the U.S. gathered evidence that Russian surveillance planes were mapping critical infrastructure in the U.S. As Republican Senator Tom Cotton said Thursday: "The Open Skies Treaty started life as a good-faith agreement between major powers and died an asset of Russian intelligence."

U.S. diplomats have raised these issues with their Russian counterparts to bring them back into compliance with the treaty. But Moscow has not budged. Because the U.S. has spy satellites and other technological means of gathering the same data its surveillance planes collect, it loses very little by withdrawing from the Open Skies treaty.

There is a more important principle at stake as well. If Putin believes that he can get away with cheating on treaties that his most important adversary respects, what incentive does he have to come into compliance? What good are arms-control agreements if they do not enhance international security?

That is the question that drives the Trump administration's approach to arms control. "Where arms control does not contribute to security—such as where our counterparties refuse to comply with their obligations—we have made very clear that we are willing to walk away from failed agreements," said Christopher Ford, assistant secretary of state for international security and nonproliferation, in a little-noticed speech in February.

That may sound obvious, and almost all treaties have a procedure by which a party can justifiably leave the agreement. But until the Trump administration, no senior U.S. official had stated this principle as clearly as Ford did: When the other party refuses to honor an agreement, walk away. If Trump and his successors stick to this simple approach, the arms-control arrangements of the future will provide the security that the flawed treaties of today do not.

So it shouldn't be surprising that as Trump withdraws from the Open Skies treaty, his administration has agreed to begin talks with Russia to negotiate an extension to another strategic nuclear army control treaty known as New START. The Trump administration is not opposed to arms control. What it opposes is the violation of arms-control agreements.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Memorial Day message

By DAVID M. APATANG
Special to the Saipan Tribune

David M. Apatang is the mayor of Saipan.

Today, let us take a moment to pay homage to the brave men and women of our United States Armed Forces, who made the ultimate sacrifice for the freedom and security of peace we all fervently cherish today. To all the fallen heroes, who sacrificed their tomorrows in protecting and advancing our national principal for peace, equality, freedom, and individual rights, we owe them our eternal gratitude for selflessly putting their lives in harm's way to make every person's life better.

To all the service men and women who are still serving, fighting, and defending to protect and preserve our country's democracy and world peace, we will always remember and pray for them and their safe return.

To all the families who are still grieving from their losses and trying to pick up the pieces to build a life to move forward, we are here for you to fill the void you have to endure as you move on in life. We will continue to pray for you and with you.

Please enjoy a safe Memorial Day weekend while remembering those who sacrificed for our freedom and preserving our peace. May God bless you and your family and all those we honor this Memorial Day.

Thank you, *si yu'us ma'ase,* and *ghilisow.*

We need to make more of our own drugs

By RICH LOWRY
King Features Synd., Inc.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

A country learns about itself in a crisis, and one revelation in the coronavirus emergency is that we can't make our own penicillin.

The first patient successfully treated with the antibiotic was a woman suffering from sepsis in a Connecticut hospital in 1942. Her treatment took up half the country's supply. Yet in short order we figured out how to mass produce the medicine, saving the lives of countless soldiers in World War II. Once, factories throughout the country made the stuff.

But that was a long time ago. The last U.S. plant to make penicillin, a Bristol-Myers Squibb operation in Syracuse, New York, shuttered in 2004.

What happened? According to Rosemary Gibson of The Hastings Center and author of the book "China Rx," "Industry data reveal that Chinese companies formed a cartel, colluded to sell product on the global market at below market price, and drove all U.S., European and Indian producers out of business."

Just like that—it's not so easy to simply start up a penicillin fermenter—we were out of the penicillin-production business.

The story of penicillin is the tale of U.S. dependence on China-sourced pharmaceuticals and active drug ingredients writ large.

From 2010 to 2018, U.S. imports of pharmaceuticals from China increased 75%. China is the second largest exporter of drugs and biologics to the United States behind Canada, and our dependence is even greater, given that China is the source of the active ingredients of many drugs produced elsewhere.

China is a dominant force when it comes to generic drugs in particular, which account for the vast majority of medicines that Americans take. We rely on China for 90% of our antibiotics, and for drugs for everything from HIV/AIDS to cancer to antidepressants.

China is fully aware of its leverage. It notoriously threatened via its state-run media to cut off our supply of drugs (except fentanyl, of course) and plunge the U.S. into "the mighty sea of coronavirus."

Even if China weren't a malign global competitor (it is), a remorseless dictatorship (it is) or a dishonest kleptocracy (it is), there would be risk inherent in having so many of our medications and their components coming from one country. We become vulnerable to any disruption of Chinese production, whether from disease, political unrest or war.

Beijing is a particularly nasty actor, but the coronavirus has demonstrated that even friendly nations will keep medical supplies from one other if it is in their self-interest to do so.

It is only prudent, then, that the U.S. begin a national effort to produce more of its own medicines.

Unspooling entrenched supply chains won't be simple. The U.S. should create every incentive for drug companies to at least move out of China into other foreign countries, and ideally come back here (economic incentives clearly matter—when drug companies lost tax preferences to manufacture in Puerto Rico, many of them left for China). Eventually, federally funded health systems, including Medicare, Medicaid and Veterans Affairs, should buy only American-sourced pharmaceuticals.

Prescient commentators have been warning of our growing dependence on China for medicines for years. After this, there's no excuse for not fixing it.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Business hours: 6am to 6pm. Why?

Based on a *Saipan Tribune* article posted on March 30, it is clear that making stores close at 1pm (a policy in effect only the previous week) was a very bad idea, as it had resulted in crowding, which is precisely what we are all trying to avoid. Extending the permitted business hours, effective March 28, was the solution to this problem. Now I am asking for an official or expert explanation as to what makes 6pm the magic hour, particularly now that the curfew was moved from 7pm to 10pm on May 1.

Sure, 6am to 6pm (which reportedly has been in effect since March 28) has a nice ring to it, but what else? How is it any safer for restaurants to be open at breakfast or lunch time than at dinner time? Social distancing rules are in effect in any case, and masks are typically required at stores, where employees are expected to keep surfaces extra clean, prevent crowding, etc. What's stopping the governor from allowing businesses to extend their hours within the period that we are allowed to be out, say to 9pm? Then each business can decide for themselves if it's worth closing later than is currently allowed, but surely a lot of markets, restaurants, and their customers would be happy rather than worried if these establishments were open closer to regular hours. I don't see how working or getting food after 6pm poses a threat to anyone, and no one has been able to explain this to me. Please help us make sense of this policy, or help the policy make sense.

Robert Posegate
Puerto Rico, Saipan

TENS

From Page 8

ulators—the Federal Communications Commission in the U.S. They have to provide an analysis of collision risks and proposals for taking satellites safely out of orbit. Most would burn up in the Earth's atmosphere once taken out of orbit.

Still, the possibility that 50,000 more satellites could be in orbit within a decade demands some international attention and cooperation. Taking steps now to limit the impact could keep the skies a bit clearer for future exploration.

(c)2020 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

Update on PUA, FPUC sought

By PAUL A. MANGLONA
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Editor's Note: This letter was originally addressed to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres on May 21, 2020.

Dear Gov. Torres: This is to inquire about the status of the Pandemic Unemployment Assistance and Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation for our displaced workers in the CNMI. I am sure we all have been inundated with calls from our constituents and are feeling the pressure from our people's frustration on the delayed unemployment payments especially in the midst of our island lockdowns and fresh warnings from public health officials that the pandemic, which has claimed over 85,000 lives in the U.S., remains a major risk.

Based on information in the national media, the United States' unprecedented fiscal response is encountering many problems that highlight the difficulty of getting money to the unemployed who need it to ride out the crisis. It has not been able to successfully deliver what it needs to despite the heroic efforts of many individuals and state agencies. The exact number of people still waiting nationally for their unemployment benefits cannot be accurately determined mainly because of the high volume of claims still flowing into overloaded systems.

As we all know, this is not good news for the CNMI. The shortcomings in the nation's unemployment-insurance system will undoubtedly affect our local distribution timeframe. This is alarming. Aside from exacerbating our people's cash shortages, the longer people go without any income, the deeper they sink into debt, leaving them in financial ruts that can take years to overcome.

I understand that you are doing everything you can in the face of an unprecedented situation. But in light of our nation's shortcomings discussed above and reading that more than half of the applicants in the U.S. mainland are still waiting for their money, it is important that the CNMI stay ahead of the ball.

Therefore, I kindly ask that you provide us with an update on the status or progress of the implementation of PUA and FPUC for CNMI residents. Additionally, we appreciate any recommendations you may have for legislative action in assisting with the program's implementation and execution so as to prevent further delays in the distribution of benefits.

Further, with more than 3,000 government employees furloughed and thousands more in the private sectors that are displaced, it is critical that we must do everything we can to get the money immediately in the hands of our unemployed. As a way to help our unemployed, we need to consider other local options such as a one-time CNMI stimulus check of a fixed amount, for instance $1500 per displaced worker, to be offset later once the individual starts receiving their weekly federal unemployment check. This can possibly be arranged and coordinated through Commonwealth Development Authority in consultation with the Department of Labor to ensure that stimulus recipients are eligible under the federal guidelines. This financial assistance bridge scheme will go a long way as it will be months before most of our people start receiving their weekly unemployment assistance.

The longer it takes for our people to see signs of the expected $900 a week in unemployment or explanations as to why they are not receiving it yet, more people will start questioning what the whole lockdown and quarantine exercise has been for, especially if they are unable to go back to work soon. The frustrating part according to many of our constituents is stressing over their finances when they are already stressing over their health and that of their families.

Again, as we all come together and work to find ways to help our people during these uncertain times, I am sure we can all agree that one of the greatest priority of our government is ensuring that all our displaced workers, both in government and private sectors, in all our islands, receive the immediate financial aid they are entitled to.

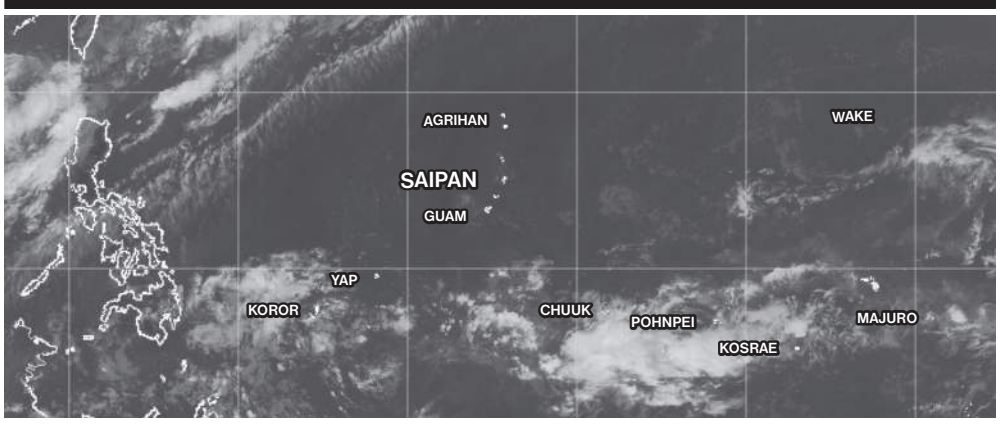
Paul A. Manglona is a senator in the 21st CNMI Legislature.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Partly cloudy with a slight chance of light showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
89° 79°	89° 79°	89° 79°	89° 79°	89° 79°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 6:10 AM, SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Light showers are moving through the Marianas this morning with the heaviest rain over Rota and Guam. Buoys show swells of 4 to 5 feet across the coastal waters along with moderate east trade winds.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				**GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN**			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	1, 4, 6	UA174	7:30am	8:11am	1, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 79°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Rain	61° / 57°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	88° / 71°
Hong Kong	Thunderstorm	88° / 81°
Honolulu	Showers	84° / 73°
London	Showers	73° / 55°
Los Angeles	Sunny	73° / 59°
Manila	Thunderstorm	93° / 81°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	59° / 41°
Miami	Thunderstorm	83° / 74°
New York	Showers	81° / 68°
Osaka	Sunny	82° / 64°
Paris	Thunderstorm	77° / 61°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	77° / 64°
Rome	Sunny	82° / 63°
Salem	Thunderstorm	90° / 72°
San Francisco	Sunny	64° / 54°
Seoul	Sunny	88° / 63°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	81° / 64°
Washington, DC	Thunderstorm	90° / 72°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:46 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	5:45 AM	6:43 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:35 AM	8:57 PM	-
Tuesday	8:28 AM	9:52 PM	-
Wednesday	9:25 AM	10:45 PM	-
Thursday	10:22 AM	11:36 PM	-
Friday	11:21 AM	-	-

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
3:32 AM	LOW TIDE	1.37
8:07 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.89
3:33 PM	LOW TIDE	-0.13
10:50 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.98

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNMENT RESOURCE LISTING PAGE 1 MAY 21, 2020, 11:30 AM

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
- ***Cashier & Customer Service***
  Monday - Friday (Closed on Holidays)
  7:30 AM - 3:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-4282
  Pay bills online at www.cucgov.org, via phone by calling toll free Tel: 1-(855)-729-2282, or at any Bank of Guam, Bank of Saipan, or Bank of Hawaii Branch

CNMI State Medicaid Agency
- ***Eligibility Office & Accounting / Claims***
  Monday - Friday
  7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-4880/4882
  Still accepting applications and supporting documents via drop-box at Medicaid Office. Medicaid application & renewal / redetermination forms must be original. Applications/forms available for pick up next to the drop-box or online at: www.medicaid.cnmi.mp

Department of Land and Natural Resources
- ***Division of Land Registration***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 322-9987
- ***Division of Agriculture***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 256-3320 / 3321
- ***Division of Fish & Wildlife***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-6000

Office of the Attorney General
- ***Civil & Criminal Divisions***
  Monday - Friday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 237-7500 / 7600

Department of Public Works
- ***Administrative Services Division***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 235-9570 / 5818
- ***Building Safety Code Division***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 234-2726 / 2296
- ***Technical Services Division***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 234-9828 / 9838
  - ***Highway Branch***
    Monday - Friday
    7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
- ***Energy Division***
  Monday - Friday
  7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-4480 / 4481
- ***Roads and Grounds Division***
  Monday - Friday
  7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 322-9498
- ***Solid Waste Management Division***
  - ***Lower Base Transfer Station & Marpi Landfill***
    Open all week except Wednesday & Sunday
    7:30 AM - 1:00 PM
    Tel: (670) 322-2745 (Lower Base)
    (670) 322-2761 (Marpi Landfill)

CNMI Public Assistance Office
- ***Available via phone or email only:***
  Mondays - Fridays
  7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-2411
  Email: info@pa.gov.mp

Office of the Public Defender
- Monday - Friday
  9:00 AM - 3:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 234-6503

SOCIAL DISTANCING TO BE IMPLEMENTED AT ALL OFFICES

GOVERNOR'S COVID-19 TASK FORCE HOTLINE TEL: (670) 287-0046

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

GOVERNMENT RESOURCE LISTING PAGE 2 MAY 21, 2020, 11:30 AM

Department of Finance
- ***Division of Revenue & Taxation***
  Monday - Friday
  8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-1000
- ***ALL OTHER DIVISIONS (Except Customs)***
  Monday - Thursday
  8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- ***Division of Customs Services***
  - ***Airport:*** OPEN DAILY
    8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
  - ***Seaport:*** Monday - Friday
    8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
  - ***Chalan Kanoa Post Office:***
    Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
    Saturday 7:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Department of Public Lands
- ***Cashier accepting payments:***
  Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM
- ***Available via phone or email:***
  Monday - Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 234-3751/52/53/54
  For appointments call (670) 234-3751 or email dpl@dpl.gov.mp

Saipan Zoning Office
- ***Available via phone ONLY:***
  Monday - Thursday
  7:30 AM - 11:30 AM
  Tel: (670) 234-9661/ 9662/ 9663
  Email: geri.delacruz@zoning.gov.mp

CNMI 2020 Census
- Monday – Friday
  7:30 AM – 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 682-2020
  Email: cnmi@2020census.gov

Department of Public Safety
- ***Bureau of Motor Vehicle (BMV)***
  - ***Document Drop-Off For Vehicle / Watercraft Registration Renewal***
    Monday - Thursday
    8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
    Tel: (670) 664-9068
  - ***Walk-In For Drivers License***
    Monday - Thursday
    8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
    Tel: (670) 664-9066
- ***Firearms and Records***
  Monday - Thursday
  9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (For Walk-Ins)
  Tel: (670) 664-9072
- ***Highway Safety Office***
  Monday - Thursday (For Walk-Ins)
  9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-9121 / 9125 / 9131

Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- ***Fire Enforcement Office***
  Monday - Thursday
  7:30 AM - 4:00 PM
  Tel: (670) 664-9178

Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs
- Monday – Friday
  7:30 AM – 4:30 PM
  Tel: (670) 488-2200 / 0440 / 0550
  Email: glenna.reyes@gov.mp

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Business

Casa Urashima *reopens* with spaghetti menu

For more information and for take-our orders, call 233-3303 or reach them through Facebook.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Casa Urashima is nestled atop the hill behind Kristo Rai Church in Garapan.

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Japanese fusion restaurant Casa Urashima has reopened and is currently serving its bestselling spaghetti dishes for take-out.

Owner Osamu Taniguchi said the restaurant, which is nestled atop the hill behind Kristo Rai Church in Garapan, temporarily closed last March 23 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

It reopened last March 18 with social distancing guidelines in place and for take-out orders only.

Taniguchi said their exclusive lineup of spaghetti meals for take-out actually came by accident. "We serve spaghetti now. We started with a kind of bento set but our loyal customers requested to have spaghetti, so we changed it.

For now, Casa Urashima has a tight spaghetti dish menu that includes tomato and basil, carbonara, meat sauce, eringi garlic, cod roe cream, salty plum, clam garlic, blue crab tomato cream, and sea urchin cream.

We just started last week so we will hear from customers and try to meet with their demand," he said.

For now, Casa Urashima has a tight spaghetti dish menu that includes tomato and basil, carbonara, meat sauce, eringi garlic, cod roe cream, salty plum, clam garlic, blue crab tomato cream, and sea urchin cream. To wash it all down, try the restaurant's homemade ginger ale.

Casa Urashima has been in business since June 2001 and has seen the ebb and flow of the islands' economy.

The Japanese fusion restaurant reopened last March 18 with social distancing guidelines in place and for take-out orders only.

"We had very good customers so business was successful," said Taniguchi when asked how the restaurant's operations were in its first few years.

Aside from blue crab spaghetti and sea urchin spaghetti, among the favorites customers crave for at Casa Urashima is the avocado tuna wasabi cream.

Tanigichi remains optimistic about the future, especially post-COVID-19, and hopes that their loyal customers return. "We so much appreciate their patronage."

Casa Urashima is open Monday-Saturday from 11am to 2pm. For more information and for take-our orders, call 233-3303 or reach them through Facebook.

Bank of Guam Yigo branch reopens

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam announced the reopening of its Yigo Branch beginning tomorrow, May 26. Extended hours have also been announced and are as follows, also beginning Tuesday, May 26, 2020:

GUAM BRANCHES (Hagatna, Upper Tumon, Andersen, Mangilao and Yigo branches and Tumon Drive Thru:

- 9am-3pm, Monday through Friday, closed Saturday
- 7:30am-8:30am Monday through Friday Hagatna Branch and Drive Thru Manamko Hours, closed Saturday

CNMI BRANCHES (Garapan, Tinian, and Rota branches)

- 9am-3pm, Monday through Friday, Closed Saturday
- 7:30am-8:30am, Monday through Friday Garapan Branch and Drive Thru Manamko Hours, closed Saturday

NEIGHBORING ISLAND REGION (EFFECTIVE MONDAY, MAY 25) - UPDATED SERVICES AND HOURS

The following services will be restored at all Neighboring Island Branches:

- Opening of new accounts (by appointment only)
- Loan origination (by appointment only)
- Wire Transfers (in branch wire transfer deadline 2pm, OLB wire deadline remains at 4pm)
- Purchases of official items

NEIGHBORING ISLAND REGION UPDATED HOURS

FSM BRANCHES

- 9am-3pm, Monday through Friday, closed Saturday

BELAU BRANCH

- 9:30am-2:30pm Monday through Friday, closed Saturday

MAJURO BRANCH

- 10am-3om Monday through Friday, closed Saturday

A complete list of all open branch locations and permitted transactions is available on www.bankofguam.com, the COVID-19 Page.

Bank of Guam president and chief executive officer Kin Cook noted, "We continually study our branch network operations, using a slow, deliberate, and incremental assessment so that we balance our customers' need to access our branches with enhanced safety concerns."

For additional information, please contact Jackie Marati at (671) 472-5258. ***(PR)***

IT&E announces winners of Stay Home Challenge

Jonathan Guzman of Guam is the winner of the Samsung Galaxy S20 Ultra in the IT&E Stay Home Challenge. Guzman's entry was selected as IT&E's Choice. He also received a Nimbus phone case and one year of free service.

Wei Jia Zhou and Nathan Roppul of the CNMI are the winners of the Samsung Galaxy S20+ In the IT&E Stay Home Challenge. Zhou's and Roppul's entry received the most likes from fans on Instagram. They also received a Nimbus phone case and one year of free service.

Jenae Davis of the CNMI is the winner of the Samsung Galaxy S20 in the IT&E Stay Home Challenge. Davis was selected randomly from all participants in the contest. She also received a Nimbus phone case and one year of free service.

IT&E is excited to announce the winners of the IT&E Stay Home Challenge. From March 29 to April 30, 2020 residents of Guam and CNMI were invited to share on their Instagram pages how they were passing the time at home during the government Stay-At-Home order for the chance to win a Samsung Galaxy S20 Ultra, S20+ or a S20 with a phone case and 1 year of free service.

"Congratulations to our winners and thank you to everyone that participated. Staying at home was crucial to flattening the curve of COVID-19. It was a difficult time for many and the Stay Home Challenge was our way of helping our community to take their minds off the stress of the situation, while also encouraging them to keep safe," said IT&E CEO Jim Oehlerking.

All winning entries can be viewed on IT&E's CNMI and Guam social media pages.

IT&E has been delivering connections that matter in Guam and the Marianas for more than 35 years. IT&E is the leading provider of mobile technology and world-class telecommunications services on the widest 4G LTE data network. ***(PR)***

Nation

Holiday amid pandemic: Americans divided on how to respond

AP
Hazel Roberts walks in a field of flags ahead of Memorial Day, Saturday, May 23, 2020, in Cohasset, Mass.

NEW YORK (AP)—President Donald Trump played golf at one of his courses Saturday during the Memorial Day weekend as he urged U.S. states to reopen after coronavirus-related lockdowns. Yet many Americans remained cautious as the number of confirmed cases nationwide passed 1.6 million.

In California, where many businesses and recreational activities are reopening, officials in Los Angeles County said they would maintain tight restrictions until July 4. Some religious leaders took issue with Trump's declaration that houses of worship are "essential" and should resume in-person services this weekend.

"Being at the epicenter of this pandemic and in order to protect our flock, we advise that congregations remain closed until more accurate and uniform information is provided," said Bishop Paul Egensteiner, who oversees the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's congregations in the hard-hit New York City region.

Statewide, New York reported its lowest number of daily coronavirus deaths—84—in many weeks in what Gov. Andrew Cuomo described as a critical benchmark. The daily death tally peaked at 799 on April 8.

"For me, it's a sign that we're making real progress," Cuomo said.

Rain dampened the start of the holiday weekend in the northeastern U.S., where newly reopened beaches were expected to attract throngs of people and test the effectiveness of social distancing rules. At Orchard Beach in the Bronx, which was crowded a weekend earlier, parking lots were mostly empty except for large puddles.

To the south, Trump played golf at one of his private clubs for the first time during the pandemic—the Trump National Golf Club in Virginia. He has been pushing for state and local leaders to fully reopen after months of closures and tight restrictions.

Parts of New Orleans stirred to back life, with some restaurants and businesses opening for the first time in over two months. Some remained closed, especially in the French Quarter, which relies largely on tourist dollars.

At least a few out-of-towners trickled in. Greer Falls of Augusta, Georgia, wore a mask as he entered the Royal House restaurant for lunch. After weeks at home, he said he was ready for a change of scenery and didn't want to miss a birthday celebration with friends he's known for decades.

Some amusement parks, such as Mt. Olympus in the Wisconsin Dells and Lagoon amusement park in Farmington, Utah, opened for the first time in months. The Facebook sites for both parks were flooded with comments from visitors excited to ride go-karts or roller coasters, though some complained about Lagoon's policy of requiring masks.

Andrew Young, 29, said Lagoon has been a lifelong summer staple and when he learned the park would be open Saturday, he went online immediately to make a reservation for himself, his wife and 2-year-old daughter. Because a limited number of people were allowed entry, they found short lines and there always seemed to be just one other family on each ride. There were also sanitation stations and other measures to keep people distanced and feeling safe.

"It was a lot of fun," Young said. "Finally going, having some feeling of normalcy. ... We had a very enjoyable morning."

Overseas, there was mixed news. New coronavirus cases reported in China were zero Saturday for the first time since the outbreak began but surged in India and overwhelmed hospitals across Latin America.

Many governments are easing restrictions as they face a political backlash and historic economic recessions. In just a few months, the pandemic has killed at least 340,000 people worldwide and infected about 5.3 million, according to a tally kept by Johns Hopkins University.

As the United States closed in on 100,000 confirmed COVID-19 deaths, the New York Times devoted Sunday's entire, photo-less front page to a list of nearly 1,000 names of pandemic victims with a few words in memorial for each, culled from obituaries published around the country. "Continued on Page 12," it read at bottom right.

Turkey, which has recorded over 155,000 infections, imposed its toughest lockdown measures yet for the Eid al-Fitr holiday marking the end of Ramadan. Yemen's Houthi rebels urged believers to use masks and stay inside, as authorities try to contain infections at a time usually marked by multigenerational feasting and collective prayer.

In Germany, which has drawn praise for its handling of the virus, seven people appear to have been infected at a restaurant in the northwest of the country. It would be the first such known case since restaurants started reopening two weeks ago.

Sessions, running for Senate, rejects Trump's criticism

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—Jeff Sessions pushed back at President Donald Trump's criticism Saturday, telling Trump that he was "damn fortunate" Sessions recused himself from the Russia investigation.

Sessions responded pointedly on Twitter after Trump called Sessions untrustworthy and reiterated his endorsement of Sessions' Republican primary rival for U.S. Senate, former Auburn University football coach Tommy Tuberville.

"Look, I know your anger, but recusal was required by law. I did my duty & you're damn fortunate I did. It protected the rule of law & resulted in your exoneration," Sessions tweeted in response to Trump.

Sessions added, "your personal feelings don't dictate who Alabama picks as their senator."

Trump fired back Saturday evening, tweeting that Sessions should "drop out of the race."

"Jeff, you had your chance & you blew it," Trump tweeted. "Recused yourself ON DAY ONE (you never told me of a problem), and ran for the hills. You had no courage, & ruined many lives."

Sessions has long defended the recusal but had largely avoided engaging Trump's tweeted scorn as he emphasizes his continuing loyalty to Trump and his agenda. Sessions has gone on the offensive about the recusal, which drew Trump's ire and has been a lingering obstacle as Sessions seeks the U.S. Senate seat that he held for two decades.

"3 years ago, after Jeff Sessions recused himself, the Fraudulent Mueller Scam began. Alabama, do not trust Jeff Sessions. He let our Country down. That's why I endorsed Coach Tommy Tuberville (@TTuberville), the true supporter of our #MAGA agenda!" Trump tweeted.

Sessions was Trump's first attorney general, a position he was forced to resign when his recusal from the Russia inquiry prompted a fallout with Trump. Sessions said he was required by law to recuse because he was a potential subject and witness since he had participated in Trump's 2016 campaign.

Sessions faces Tuberville in the July 14 Republican primary runoff. The winner will face U.S. Sen. Doug Jones in November.

Tuberville has made Trump's belittling of Sessions a focal point of his campaign. Tuberville has begun airing ads featuring Trump's criticisms of Sessions. One includes a clip of Trump saying if he could have one presidential do-over it would be to not appoint Sessions as attorney general.

"Jeff Sessions quit on the President and he failed Alabama. I'll always have President Trump's back," Tuberville says in the ad.

Sessions, in a follow-up tweet, called Tuberville a coward for refusing to debate him and criticized his stance on immigration.

Trump to attend Wednesday's NASA astronaut launch in Florida

STERLING, Va. (AP)—President Donald Trump plans to be on the Florida coast Wednesday to watch American astronauts blast into orbit from the Kennedy Space Center for the first time in nearly a decade.

It will be the first time since the space shuttle program ended in 2011 that U.S. astronauts will launch into space aboard an American rocket from American soil.

Also new Wednesday: a private company—not NASA—is running the show.

Elon Musk's SpaceX is the conductor and NASA the customer as businesses begin chauffeuring astronauts to the International Space Station. With American shuttles no longer in use, the United States has had to rely on Russia for rides to the station.

The NASA/SpaceX Commercial Crew flight test launch will carry NASA's newest test pilots, Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken, in a SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.

They're scheduled to blast off at 4:33 p.m. EDT from launch pad 39A, the same one the Apollo astronauts used to get to the moon.

The shift to private companies allows NASA to zero in on deep space travel. The space agency is working to return astronauts to the moon by 2024 under orders from the White House, but that deadline appears increasingly unlikely even as three newly chosen commercial teams rush to develop lunar landers. Mars also beckons.

The White House portrayed the launch as an extension of Trump's promise to reassert American dominance in space. He recently oversaw creation of the Space Force as the sixth branch of the armed forces.

"Our destiny, beyond the Earth, is not only a matter of national identity, but a matter of national security," Trump said in a statement.

Vice President Mike Pence, who is chairman of the National Space Council, also plans to attend Wednesday's launch.

NASA has discouraged spectators, citing the pandemic, and is limiting the number of visitors inside the space center.

Asia

Turbulence, warnings before Pakistan plane crash killed 97

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP)—When the plane jolted violently, Mohammad Zubair thought it was turbulence. Then the pilot came on the intercom to warn that the landing could be "troublesome."

Moments later, the Pakistan International Airlines flight crashed into a crowded neighborhood near Karachi's international airport, killing 97 people, all of whom are believed to be passengers and crew members. Zubair was one of just two surviving passengers.

Meeran Yousaf, the provincial Health Department spokeswoman, said only 21 of the bodies from Friday's crash have been identified and that most of the bodies were badly burned. Eight people on the ground were injured. Three remained hospitalized and all residents are accounted for, she said.

The plane crashed at 2:39 p.m. near Jinnah International Airport, in the poor and congested residential area known as Model Colony. PIA spokesman Abdullah Hafiz Khan said the aircraft destroyed or heavily damaged 18 homes.

Civil Aviation Authority spokesman Abdul Sattar Kokhar said the Airbus A320 was carrying 91 passengers and eight crew members. The only other survivor of the crash was Zafar Masood, a bank executive.

In a telephone interview from his hospital bed, Zubair, a mechanical engineer, said flight PK8303 had taken off on time from the eastern city of Lahore at 1 p.m. It was a smooth, uneventful flight until the aircraft began its descent near Karachi shortly before 3 p.m.

He said the aircraft made three attempts to land, once seeming to almost land and then take off again.

"Suddenly the plane jerked violently, once and then again," said Zubair. The aircraft turned and the pilot's voice came over the intercom. They were experiencing engine trouble and the landing could be "troublesome," the pilot said. That was the last thing Zubair remembered until he woke up in a scene of chaos.

"I saw so much smoke and fire. I heard people crying, children crying."

He crawled his way out of the smoke and rubble, and was eventually pulled from the ground and rushed into an ambulance.

"I'm very thankful to Allah for granting me a second life," he said. "It is a miracle."

Pakistan had only earlier this week resumed domestic flights ahead of Eid-al Fitr, which marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan. Many of the passengers aboard the flight were families returning home for the holiday, said Science Minister Fawad Ahmed Chaudhry.

Between the coronavirus pandemic and the plane crash, this year has been a "catastrophe," he said.

"What is most unfortunate and sad is whole families have died, whole families who were travelling together for the Eid holiday," he told The Associated Press.

Social media and local news reports said Zara Abid, an actor and an award-winning model, was among those killed. A senior banker, his wife and three young children were also reportedly killed. Shabaz Hussein, whose mother died in the crash, told The Associated Press he identified her body at a local hospital and was waiting to take it away for burial.

The airliner plowed into the crowded Model Colony neighborhood as many of the men of of the area were gathered at nearby mosques for weekly Friday prayers, perhaps explaining why the number of injured on the ground was just eight, mostly women and children. Only three were still hospitalized, said the Sindh Health Department spokeswoman, and all the residents of the 18 homes that were damaged by the crash were accounted for.

"The men were praying at the nearby mosque, Masjid-e-Bilal, which is 100 meters from where the plane crashed," said resident Amir Chaudhry, whose sister was injured when the airliner crashed into the neighborhood.

Pakistan has been in a countrywide lockdown since mid-March because of the coronavirus, and when flights resumed every other seat was left vacant to promote social distancing.

Recovery begins after storm ravages Indian, Bangladesh coast

NEW DELHI (AP)—Authorities began clearing roads and assessing damage on Friday after Cyclone Amphan barreled through coastal communities in eastern India and neighboring Bangladesh, killing more than 100 people and leaving millions displaced.

In India's West Bengal state, which bore the brunt of the storm that caused extensive flooding in its capital Kolkata, police and disaster response teams removed fallen trees and other debris, repaired communication lines and began moving hundreds of thousands of people out of shelters.

Amphan hit land Wednesday as the most powerful storm in the region in more than a decade, dumping heavy rain amid a battering storm surge.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said the cyclone should be treated as a national disaster and appealed for assistance from the federal government.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi surveyed the worst-hit areas of West Bengal and neighboring Odisha state by air.

It was Modi's first trip outside the national capital after imposing a coronavirus lockdown in late March.

"The country is already going through a crisis and during that time we have to deal with a cyclone," Modi said in West Bengal.

He announced a $195 million relief fund for the two storm-battered states.

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres expressed "solidarity with the people of India and Bangladesh as they face the impact of a devastating cyclone while also responding to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic," U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said. "The United Nations stands ready to support these efforts."

The cyclone has raised fears it could exacerbate the spread of the coronavirus in overcrowded emergency shelters.

In an initial assessment, officials in Bangladesh said the cyclone caused about $130 million in damage to infrastructure, housing, fisheries, livestock, water resources and agriculture. The full extent of the damage along India's eastern coast was not immediately known.

Authorities in both countries managed to evacuate more than 3 million people before Amphan struck.

At least 80 people were killed in West Bengal state and two deaths were reported in Odisha state. Broadcasters in Bangladesh reported 22 deaths.

World

British leader's aide denies his 250-mile trip broke virus rules

LONDON (AP)—The British government dug in Saturday to defend Prime Minister Boris Johnson's top adviser, Dominic Cummings, for traveling more than 250 miles (400 kilometers) to his parents' house during a nationwide lockdown at a time when he suspected he had the coronavirus.

AP

Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson's senior aide Dominic Cummings leaves his north London home, in London, Saturday May 23, 2020.

Opponents demanded Cummings' resignation after The Guardian and Mirror newspapers revealed he had driven from London to the property in Durham, northeast England, with his wife and son at the end of March. A lockdown that began March 23 stipulated that people should remain at their primary residence, leaving only for essential local errands and exercise, and not visit relatives. Anyone with symptoms was advised told to completely isolate themselves.

Johnson's office said in a statement that Cummings made the trip because his wife was showing coronavirus symptoms, he correctly thought he was likely to also get sick, and relatives had offered to help look after the couple's 4-year-old son. It said Cummings stayed in a house "near to but separate from" his extended family.

"The prime minister gives Mr. Cummings his full support," said a visibly uncomfortable Transport Secretary Grant Shapps, who was peppered with questions about Cummings' trip during the government's daily coronavirus news conference.

Shapps said Cummings had followed lockdown rules by "staying in place with his family, which is the right thing to do."

"This wasn't visiting a holiday home or going to visit someone," he said. "This was going to stay put for 14 days, to remain in isolation."

The two newspapers later reported that Cummings was spotted again in the Durham area on April 19, after he had recovered from the virus and returned to work in London.

Critics of the government expressed outrage that Cummings had broken stringent rules that for two months have prevented Britons from visiting elderly relatives, comforting dying friends or even attending the funerals of loved ones.

The main opposition Labour Party wrote to the head of the civil service to call for an official investigation.

"The British people have made important and painful sacrifices to support the national effort, including being away from family in times of need," Labour lawmaker Rachel Reeves wrote in the letter. "It is therefore vital that the government can reassure the public that its most senior figures have been adhering to the same rules as everyone else."

Israel's Netanyahu, unbeaten in elections, is going on trial

JERUSALEM (AP)—After entering the record books last year as Israel's longest-serving prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu will once again make history when he becomes the country's first sitting leader to go on trial.

Surrounded by security guards, Netanyahu is set to march into Jerusalem's district court for arraignment on a series of corruption charges on Sunday. The stunning scene will push Israel into uncharted political and legal territory, launching a process that could ultimately end the career of a leader who has been undefeatable at the ballot box for over a decade.

Netanyahu has been charged with fraud, breach of trust and accepting bribes in a series of cases. He is accused of accepting expensive gifts, such as cartons of champagne and cigars, from wealthy friends and offering favors to media moguls in exchange for favorable news coverage of him and his family.

In the most serious case, he is accused of promoting legislation that delivered hundreds of millions of dollars of profits to the owner of a major telecom company while wielding behind-the-scenes editorial influence over the firm's popular news website.

Netanyahu has denied the charges, claiming he is the victim of an "attempted coup" by overaggressive police, biased prosecutors and a hostile media.

"It's the classic deep state argument," said Gayil Talshir, a political scientist at Israel's Hebrew University. Netanyahu claims "an unelected movement is trying to remove him from power just because he is a representative of the right," she said.

Netanyahu is not the first Israeli leader to go on trial. Both former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert and former President Moshe Katsav went to prison in the 2010s—Olmert on corruption charges and Katsav for rape. But they stepped down to fight the charges.

As opposition leader in 2008, Netanyahu led the calls for Olmert to leave office, famously saying a leader "up to his neck" in legal troubles had no business governing a country.

But as the investigations have piled up, culminating with his indictment last November, Netanyahu has changed his tune. He has rejected calls to resign while repeatedly lashing out at the country's legal system.

Among his favorite targets have been a former police chief and the current attorney general—both Netanyahu appointees—and the country's Supreme Court. Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit recently filed a complaint to police over anonymous threats sent to his mobile phone.

Health & Wellness

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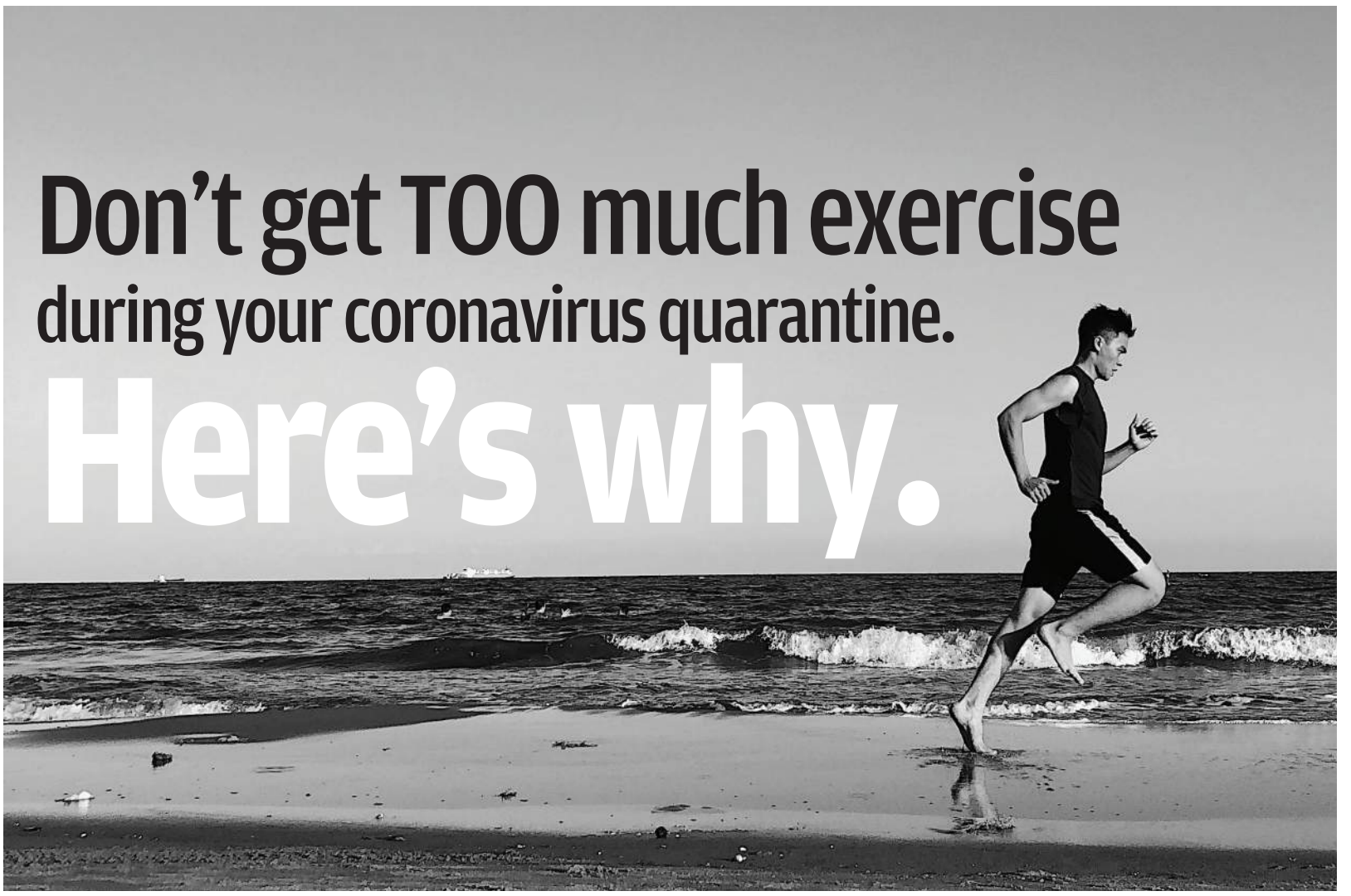


Don't get TOO much exercise during your coronavirus quarantine. Here's why.

By DAVID OLIVER
TNS

The coronavirus crisis upended most Americans' lifestyles in March—including their exercise routines.

Zipping past pedestrians during a run or lifting weights at the gym right after someone else are things of the past, with socially distanced running routes and at-home workouts becoming more mainstream.

But if you find yourself with extra time on your hands and the sudden urge to channel your coronavirus anxiety into breaking a sweat, make sure you're doing so safely. Because, yes, there is such a thing as getting too much exercise. And overdoing it could actually do more harm than good, pandemic or otherwise.

What is the right amount of exercise during the coronavirus crisis?

The standard exercise recommendations are simple: Adults should be getting at least 150 minutes of moderate physical activity every week (like brisk walking), and do muscle-strengthening activities two days per week, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. You can, of course, mix the moderate physical activity with more vigorous exercise like running.

You might logically assume that more exercise is better because you have more time on your hands, but that's not really the case. Benefits top out at about 300 minutes per week.

"Whatever your regular exercise routine was, I wouldn't alter it because of COVID-19 per se," says Linda S. Pescatello, a kinesiology professor at the University of Connecticut.

Chris Travers, an exercise physiologist at Cleveland Clinic Sports Health, points out that any amount of exercise is better than none. Research shows that even a five-minute walk or run is helping improve your cardiovascular system, and that you can do a total body strength program in seven minutes, he says.

How can I tell if I'm exercising too much?

You can experience a host of symptoms when overexercising. These include:

- Loss of appetite
- Headache
- Muscle soreness and tenderness
- Fatigue (not during, but later)
- Injury
- Higher pulse (10 or more beats) the day after exercising
- Irritability
- Difficulty concentrating
- Reduced self-esteem
- Weakened immune system

Beyond roughly 300 minutes of working out, you're probably not gaining much more benefit anyway, says Robert Sallis, co-director of the Sports Medicine Fellowship at Kaiser Permanente.

The overarching rule is to "listen to your body," Travers says. It's OK to skip a day if you're feeling fatigued.

If you're feeling severe symptoms such as dizziness, chest pain or fainting, seek medical attention.

Am I more susceptible to the new coronavirus if I exercise too much?

It's still too soon to make any kind of definitive determination.

Pescatello cautions that while it's unclear if you could be more susceptible, you wouldn't want to put yourself in a position of weakening your immune system, given the unknowns.

Though studies aren't available for COVID-19, we know other viruses are much less likely to affect humans who exercise regularly, Sallis says.

David Nieman, a biology department professor at Appalachian State University, says people shouldn't even be thinking about overtraining (more than 300 minutes per week) right now.

Existing research data supports the view that overtraining isn't recommended in parts of the world where COVID-19 transmission risk is high.

"Intense exercise when infected with COVID-19 or other systemic viruses should be avoided," Nieman says in a review paper coming out in June in the Journal of Sport and Health Science. The U.S. has more than 1 million coronaviruses cases, per Johns Hopkins data.

Now more than ever, though, physical activity is important to strengthen immune function and combat psychological stressors associated with the pandemic.

"Exercise is our best medicine to try to combat those," Sallis says.

I typically don't exercise. How can I start safely?

Remember that fitness levels vary person to person. That 150-minute threshold might be too much if you're starting out, Pescatello says.

Just lacing up your running sneakers won't turn you into Olympic champion Usain Bolt. In fact, trying a new exercise at a high intensity could prove dangerous.

"You're not going to improve your physical fitness in a day, but you could hurt yourself in a day," Travers says. He normally advises patients to walk before they run—literally.

On the flip side: What if your typical exercise routine is gone because of pandemic restrictions? Keep in mind that activities as basic as going for a walk could prove beneficial. Activities like tennis, hiking and bike riding are other socially distanced options to consider for exercise.

You'll be thankful later. Nieman thinks this epidemic is a wake-up call to the world to reverse trends of obesity and lack of exercise to keep immune systems in solid shape.

"We can do a lot with exercise and leanness to help fend off the virus, or if we get it, to reduce the symptoms and the duration of the symptoms," Nieman says.

I've been training for a race. Should I still run the distance?

You can continue to train for that race you were getting excited about. Alternatively, you can find an event for this fall and start training again.

If you opt to run your distance anyway, see if you can participate in the event virtually if a race is taking that approach. It won't be the same as you planned, but it's still a way to achieve that goal.

Remember, though, that running a full marathon can prove a great strain on a body. Nieman recommends people don't train for a marathon (a 26.2-mile race) until the virus is under control.

So what's the major takeaway? When it comes to exercise, don't overdo it, but don't do nothing. Regular daily exercise gives a boost to immune cells that target viruses when they enter the bloodstream, and exercise will better your mental health, too.

"You don't really have to do a lot to get these tremendous (exercise) benefits," Sallis says.

Tips on how to wear and care for your cloth mask

Wearing a cloth mask in public to help slow the spread of the virus that causes COVID-19 is recommend by the Centers for the Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and required by many business establishments.

These tips are adapted from the CDC guidance on how to wear and care for a cloth mask:

How to wear cloth face coverings?

Cloth face coverings should:

- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face.
- Be secured with ties or ear loops.
- Include multiple layers of fabric.
- Allow for breathing without restriction.
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

How often should cloth face coverings be washed or otherwise cleaned?

Cloth face coverings should be routinely washed depending on the frequency of use. Mayo Clinic recommends that cloth face coverings be washed after every day of use.

How do I store my cloth mask?

Masks should not be placed in pockets for later use. To store or transport, carefully fold the mask so the contaminated outside is folded inward and against itself. Place in clean or new paper bag, and perform hand hygiene.

How can I safely clean a cloth face covering?

Machine washing or hand washing should suffice to properly wash a cloth face covering with regular laundry detergent. Mayo Clinic recommends a 'hot' water temperature for washing face coverings.

How do I safely remove a used cloth face covering?

When removing a cloth face covering, be careful not to touch your eyes, nose or mouth, and perform hand hygiene immediately after removing. ***(Mayo Clinic News Network)***

Check the CDC website for additional updates on COVID-19. For more information and all your COVID-19 coverage, go to the Mayo Clinic News Network and mayoclinic.org.

Life & Style

AP
In this Aug. 27, 2019, file photo, Lori Loughlin departs federal court with her husband, clothing designer Mossimo Giannulli, left, in Boston, after a hearing in a nationwide college admissions bribery scandal.

Loughlin, Giannulli to serve prison time for college scam

By ALANNA DURKIN RICHER
ASSOCIATED PRESS

"Full House" actress Lori Loughlin has agreed to serve two months behind bars and her fashion designer husband, Mossimo Giannulli, has agreed to serve five months as part of a deal to plead guilty to cheating the college admissions process, according to court papers filed Thursday.

Loughlin, 55, and Giannulli, 56, are scheduled to plead guilty Friday via video conference before a federal judge in Boston, who must approve the deal.

It's a stunning reversal for the famous couple who insisted for the last year they were innocent and that investigators had fabricated evidence against them. Their decision comes about two weeks after the judge rejected their bid to dismiss the case over allegations of misconduct by federal authorities.

"I think they made a calculated assessment that the risks were just too great" to bring the case to trial, said former federal prosecutor Bradley Simon.

They were scheduled to go to trial in October on charges that they paid $500,000 in bribes to get their two daughters into the University of Southern California as crew team recruits, even though neither of them played the sport. They helped create fake athletic profiles for their daughters by sending the admitted ringleader of the scheme, admissions consultant Rick Singer, photos of the teens posing on rowing machines, authorities said.

Lawyers for Loughlin and Giannulli had argued that the couple believed the payments were "legitimate donations" that would go directly to USC as a fundraising gift or support Singer's charity. They also accused prosecutors of hiding crucial evidence that could prove the couple's innocence because it would undermine their case.

They agreed to plead guilty to conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud in a plea agreement filed in Boston's federal court. Giannulli will also plead guilty to a charge of honest services wire and mail fraud, prosecutors said. Prosecutors have agreed to dismiss charges of money laundering and federal programs bribery that were added after the case was filed.

Under Loughlin's plea deal, she will also pay a $150,000 fine and perform 100 hours of community service. Giannulli has agreed to pay a $250,000 fine and perform 250 hours of community service.

Simon said the couple's lawyers may think that Loughlin and Giannulli have a chance of avoiding prison altogether and serving their punishments at home because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Attorney General William Barr has ordered the Bureau of Prisons to increase the use of home confinement and expedite the release of eligible high-risk inmates because of the virus crisis. The pandemic has already delayed the prison sentences of some parents who have pleaded guilty in the college admissions case and allowed others to go home early.

"It may have been a very clever move by the lawyers," said Simon, now with the firm Windels Marx in New York.

Prosecutors were also facing the risk of embarrassment if they lost the high-profile case, and the couple's attorneys had raised some viable lines of defense for trial, said former assistant U.S. attorney Jeff Cramer.

"For both sides, from the prosecutors' side and the defense side, I think this is a fair outcome," said Cramer, now managing director of Berkeley Research Group consulting firm.

An attorney for the couple declined to comment.

Loughlin and Giannulli were among 50 people arrested last year in the case dubbed "Operation Varsity Blues" that rocked the word of higher education. They are the 23rd and 24th parents to plead guilty in the case.

The case uncovered a scheme in which wealthy parents paid huge sums to secure students' admission at elite schools as fake athletic recruits or have someone cheat on their entrance exams, authorities said.

U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling said his office will "continue to pursue accountability for undermining the integrity of college admissions."

"Under the plea agreements filed today, these defendants will serve prison terms reflecting their respective roles in a conspiracy to corrupt the college admissions process and which are consistent with prior sentences in this case," he said in an emailed statement.

Jazz competition for high school students goes virtual

NEW YORK (AP)—The coronavirus pandemic has altered the annual Essentially Ellington High School Jazz Band Competition & Festival, but it will still go on, giving students the chance to show their talents virtually.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the program.

High school bands from around the country traditionally head to Jazz at Lincoln Center in New York City for a multi-day competition.

Given the COVID-19 crisis that has led to shutdowns across the nation, there will be no travel; instead, the event will take place from June 8-12 on Jazz at Lincoln Center's website, social media accounts and also through Zoom.

"This year we are even more committed to recognizing our high school student musicians. We applaud the dedication, spirit and commitment of the students, band directors, parents and schools," said Wynton Marsalis, who is JALC's managing and artistic director. "We may be isolated from one another in this time, but together, we are connecting and expanding our extended family through the deeply human and liberating feeling of jazz."

For the first time, the event will also include several international bands. The celebration will end with the crowning of outstanding soloists and outstanding sections.

Essentially Ellington, named after jazz great Duke Ellington, is a free educational program that provides instruction and resources to jazz students nationwide. The competition was originally scheduled to be held this month.

Man has nonchalant attitude about locking up at night

DEAR ABBY: My husband has a bad habit of forgetting to lock up our house at night when he's the last one to come to bed. On nine occasions I have gone downstairs after he's in bed or awakened in the morning to find our sliding patio door or a garage door unlocked.

I cannot understand why this isn't a priority for him. If I'm the last one to come up for the night, I make sure each door is locked, lights are off, etc. It takes me less than a minute. We live in a suburb, and while our neighborhood is relatively safe and quiet, I'm not naive. I realize anything can happen anywhere.

We have two large dogs, but I have no idea how they'd react to an intruder. Frankly, I don't want to find out the hard way. The most frustrating thing about this is, when I try to talk to him about it the next day, he blows it off and says our dogs would never let anyone get far, or he makes a joke about it. I've tried many different approaches, from being calm and sweet to solutions-focused: "How can I help you remember?"

Recently, likely because I'm 37 weeks pregnant with our second child, I lost it and chewed him out after I waddled out of bed to go downstairs and found our sliding door unlocked. Needless to say, it didn't work very well.

I'm at my wits' end. It was one thing when it was just the two of us, but now we're about to have two kids under 2, and I get furious thinking he could be putting all of us in danger. He has taken no responsibility or steps toward fixing this.

I have now reached the conclusion that when I'm home, I must be the one who assumes the responsibility of ensuring our home is secure before we go to bed. But what if I fall asleep early or if I have to travel for work? Any ideas on how to address this with him?

LOSING SLEEP OVER THIS

DEAR LOSING: You have already addressed this with your husband. That he is so careless about the safety of his wife and children is shocking. He appears to be very immature.

Because he seems incapable of assuming any responsibility for locking up, you are going to have to do it. There are high-tech ways to remotely lock doors from afar, and you should explore that option.

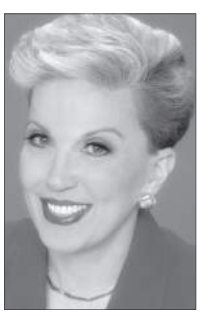
Also, for your own peace of mind, have a professional dog trainer or other experienced dog person enter your home through the unlocked door while you and your husband are upstairs because, while the dogs might not attack a stranger, they might alert you to the presence of an intruder. I suggest this because many years ago my very tame German shepherd did exactly that.

DEAR ABBY: Due to the coronavirus epidemic, handshaking is no longer being practiced. I have never been a fan of handshaking anyway. In the future, it may be acceptable to forgo handshaking altogether. What will be the best way to avoid it without seeming unfriendly or germophobic?

RESISTING IN MINNESOTA

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR RESISTING: Try doing what I do. I place both palms together in front of my chest as though praying, smile and greet the person. No one has been offended by it, and it's a common way people greet each other in India.

DEAR READERS: Along with the millions of Americans who are observing this Memorial Day, I add my prayer of thanks for those courageous men and women who sacrificed their lives in service to our country. May they rest in peace.

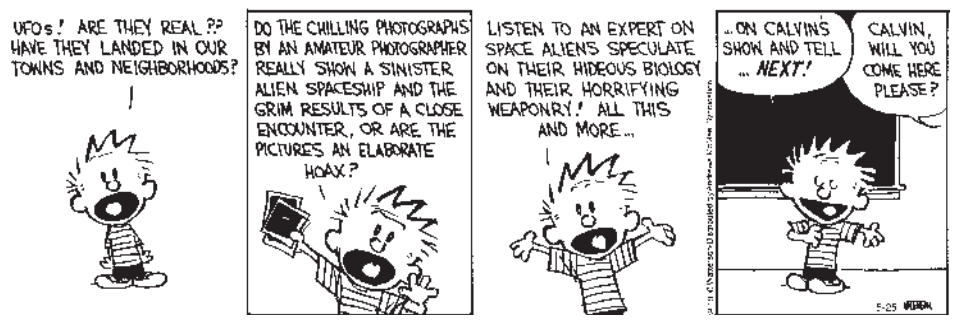
ABBY

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

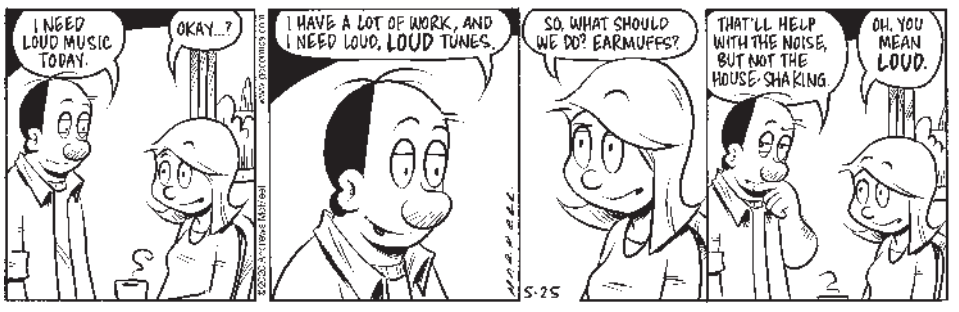

UFOs! ARE THEY REAL?? HAVE THEY LANDED IN OUR TOWNS AND NEIGHBORHOODS?
DO THE CHILLING PHOTOGRAPHS BY AN AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHER REALLY SHOW A SINISTER ALIEN SPACESHIP AND THE GRIM RESULTS OF A CLOSE ENCOUNTER, OR ARE THE PICTURES AN ELABORATE HOAX?
LISTEN TO AN EXPERT ON SPACE ALIENS SPECULATE ON THEIR HIDEOUS BIOLOGY AND THEIR HORRIFYING WEAPONRY! ALL THIS AND MORE...
...ON CALVIN'S SHOW AND TELL ... NEXT!
CALVIN, WILL YOU COME HERE PLEASE?
5-25

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

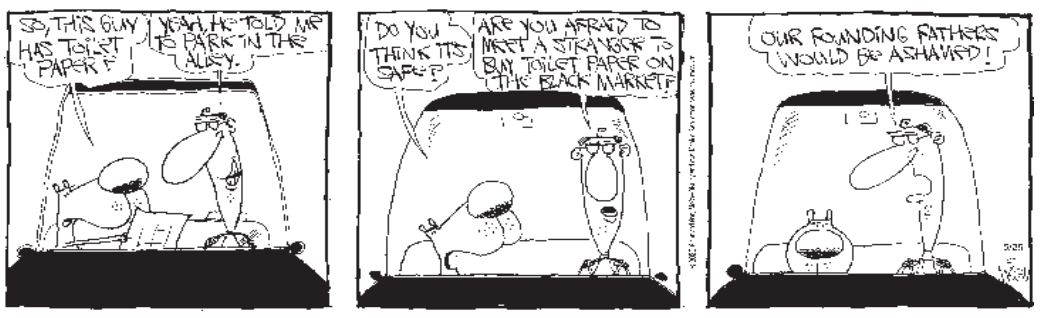
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


I NEED LOUD MUSIC TODAY.
OKAY...?
I HAVE A LOT OF WORK, AND I NEED LOUD, LOUD TUNES.
SO, WHAT SHOULD WE DO? EARMUFFS?
THAT'LL HELP WITH THE NOISE, BUT NOT THE HOUSE-SHAKING.
OH, YOU MEAN LOUD.
5-25

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


SO, THIS GUY HAS TOILET PAPER?
YEAH, HE TOLD ME TO PARK IN THE ALLEY.
DO YOU THINK IT'S SAFE?
ARE YOU AFRAID TO MEET A STRANGER TO BUY TOILET PAPER ON THE BLACK MARKET?
OUR FOUNDING FATHERS WOULD BE ASHAMED!

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

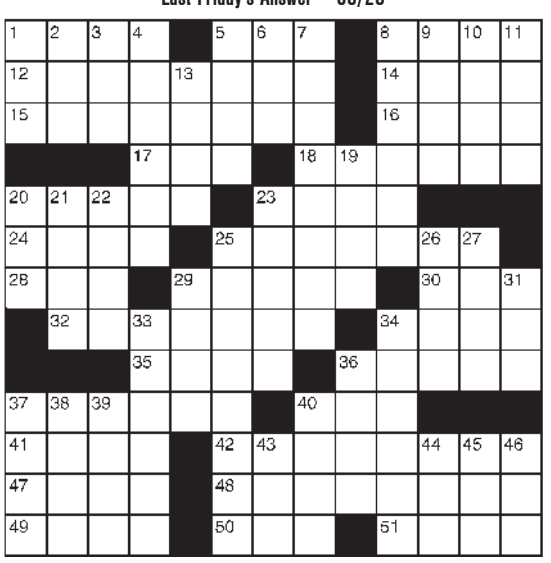
ACROSS
1 Cat call
5 PC alternative
8 Whittle (down)
12 Short-lived things
14 Send forth
15 Humorous poem
16 Peru's capital
17 Family
18 Wears away
20 BBQ fuel
23 "— the night before ..."
24 Nashville venue
25 Queasy on a cruise
28 Plead
29 Dickens title starter
30 Guys
32 Unruly bit of hair
34 Till bills
35 Xanadu's river
36 "Hammerin' Hank"
37 Root vegetable
40 Doctrine
41 Former Yankee slugger, to fans
42 Tube in a makeup kit
47 Get up
48 Traps
49 Russian ruler
50 — Paulo, Brazil
51 Diner's card

DOWN
1 Actor Gibson
2 Prefix with gram or center
3 Resistance unit
4 Payroll frequency, for some
5 Chow —
6 Curved line
7 Easy task
8 House Speaker Nancy
9 During
10 Frost
11 Greek vowels
13 Hosp. scans
19 Demolish, in Dover
20 Corn throw-away
21 Oil cartel
22 Golden Fleece ship
23 Instruct
25 Paints by dabbing
26 "Moon-struck" actress
27 Vegas game
29 "That's — ask"
31 Tax form ID
33 Roam
34 Large gong
36 Org.
37 Small fruit pie
38 "Topaz" author
39 Activist Parks
40 — facto
43 Garten of the Food Network
44 Hot temper
45 100 yrs.
46 Sch. near Topeka

Solution time: 26 mins.

W	A	S		A	Y	E	S		Z	E	U	S
E	D	U		M	U	M	S		A	R	N	E
B	A	B	Y	B	L	I	E		G	A	T	E
		S	A	L	E			O	R	S	O	N
S	L	I	M	E		S	H	O	E			
A		D	S		B	L	A	H	B	L	A	H
A	M	E		B	O	O	R	S		O	R	A
B	A	D	B	L	O	O	D		S	V	E	N
			R	O	M	E		P	L	E	A	S
C	A	R	O	B			I	R	A	S		
A	G	O	G		B	U	S	Y	B	E	E	S
S	U	L	U		A	R	L	O		A	V	A
T	A	L	E		A	L	A	F		T	E	X

Last Friday's Answer 05/25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Aly Raisman, 26; Demetri Martin, 47; Octavia Spencer, 48; Mike Myers, 57.

Happy Birthday: Start a dialogue if you want to make progress this year. Gather information, and be the one to instigate what you want to happen. Show more discipline when it comes to working and finishing what you start. Truth matters, and how you handle people and situations will be reflected in the way others treat you. Charm alone will get you only so far. Your numbers are 4, 12, 25, 29, 36, 44, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Pressure is mounting, and decisions will have to be put in place. Don't trust outside information or an empty promise. Keep your dealings simple, a budget in place and what's important to you at the top of your to-do list. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Be open about what you want to happen, and be willing to compromise and put up with the changes someone wants in order to make your plans acceptable. Follow your heart, and be prepared to make compensations to get what you want. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Pick up the pace. The more you do, the better the outcome. Idle time will lead to a problem with someone close to you. Work with what you've got, and avoid going over budget. Don't fall for someone's jargon. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Channel your emotions into something constructive. The less time you have to worry about what everyone is doing, the easier it will be for you to accomplish what you set out to do. Use your energy creatively, and avoid an argument. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* A change will catch you by surprise. You'll need to do some fancy footwork if you intend to stay on schedule and outmaneuver anyone who is trying to sabotage your plans. Don't rely on others to do things for you. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A decision that can affect your reputation, status or position will require attention. Be open to change, but don't give in to bribery or temptation. Set a goal, and verify facts before you take action. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Learn all you can. Sign up for a correspondence course, or gather data that will give you informative insight into something you want to pursue. Set up a video conference with an expert, and it will influence the way you move forward. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Expand your horizons through research and checking into complex ways to use your attributes, talents and skills to help you advance. Rearrange your workspace to suit your needs and to ensure that your productivity is optimal. Start a creative project. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* A proposal will interest you, but before you jump for joy, check out the source of information and verify the facts and figures. Someone will exaggerate a situation to coax you to take part. Be smart and stay safe. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* You'll feel stretched if you don't balance your day fairly. What's happening in your personal life will need as much attention as your peers and colleagues. Do your best to adjust as you go along. Don't leave anyone out of the loop. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Put more trust in yourself. Don't let someone beat you at your own game. Set a goal, and proceed with the intent to finish what you start and to reap the rewards. Physical and mental pursuits will boost your ego. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(February 19-March 20):* A direct approach will help you flesh out any unforeseen problems that could hold you back. Problems at home will surface if you aren't honest about the way you feel. Share your intentions, and find out where you stand. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are compassionate, friendly and imaginative. You are ambiguous and sensitive.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		7	4	8			6	
8	2	9					1	
			2		3		9	7
		8		9		6		5
4				5				8
1		2		3		7		
5	7		9		1			
	8					9	5	4
	6			2	8	3		

Difficulty Level ★ 5/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

7	5	3	6	8	9	2	1	4
4	6	1	2	3	7	5	9	8
8	2	9	5	4	1	3	7	6
9	4	6	7	5	3	1	8	2
2	8	7	1	9	4	6	5	3
3	1	5	8	2	6	7	4	9
5	7	2	9	6	8	4	3	1
6	3	8	4	1	5	9	2	7
1	9	4	3	7	2	8	6	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

'LITTLE WOMEN' (FILM) Solution: 11 letters

S	T	C	E	L	F	E	R	N	N	O	V	E	L	C
C	H	A	L	A	M	E	T	O	Ⓒ	Ⓐ	Ⓢ	Ⓣ	F	S
M	A	R	R	Y	C	A	R	T	N	R	O	A	C	G
K	R	I	K	N	E	D	O	R	I	A	T	E	E	N
N	L	M	M	G	Y	H	K	O	B	H	N	R	S	I
R	E	A	R	N	G	A	A	N	E	E	W	I	G	T
E	Y	O	O	U	N	S	R	R	O	I	T	P	N	A
D	E	S	P	L	A	T	E	U	G	L	E	H	I	K
G	C	U	K	O	R	D	G	O	A	E	E	F	L	S
T	N	S	C	A	N	L	E	N	R	L	A	S	E	C
T	E	A	J	A	M	E	S	T	S	I	S	T	E	R
O	R	T	X	W	A	T	S	O	N	Z	G	Y	F	I
C	O	E	E	H	T	O	M	I	T	A	E	M	I	P
L	L	R	H	C	R	A	M	E	G	E	K	A	L	T
A	F	G	L	Y	R	E	M	M	A	S	I	U	O	L

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Alcott, Alexander, Amy, Beth, Cast, Chalamet, Cukor, Dern, Desplat, Eliza, Emma, Father, Feelings, Florence, George, Gerwig, Greta, Harley, James, Knoles, Lake, Laura, Life, Louisa, March, Marry, May, Meg, Meryl, Norton, Novel, Odenkirk, Pugh, Reflects, Ronan, Saoirse, Scanlen, Scene, Script, Sister, Skating, Sony, Streep, Timothée, Tracy, Watson

Last Friday's Answer: Star Island

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Late July return for NBA at Disney

NEW YORK (AP)—The NBA is in talks with The Walt Disney Company on a single-site scenario for a resumption of play in Central Florida in late July, the clearest sign yet that the league believes the season can continue amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The National Basketball Players Association is also part of the talks with Disney. Games would be held at the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex, a massive campus on the Disney property near Orlando.

NBA spokesman Mike Bass said the conversations were still "exploratory," and that the site would be used not only for games but for practices and housing as well.

"Our priority continues to be the health and safety of all involved, and we are working with public health experts and government officials on a comprehensive set of guidelines to ensure that appropriate medical protocols and protections are in place," Bass said.

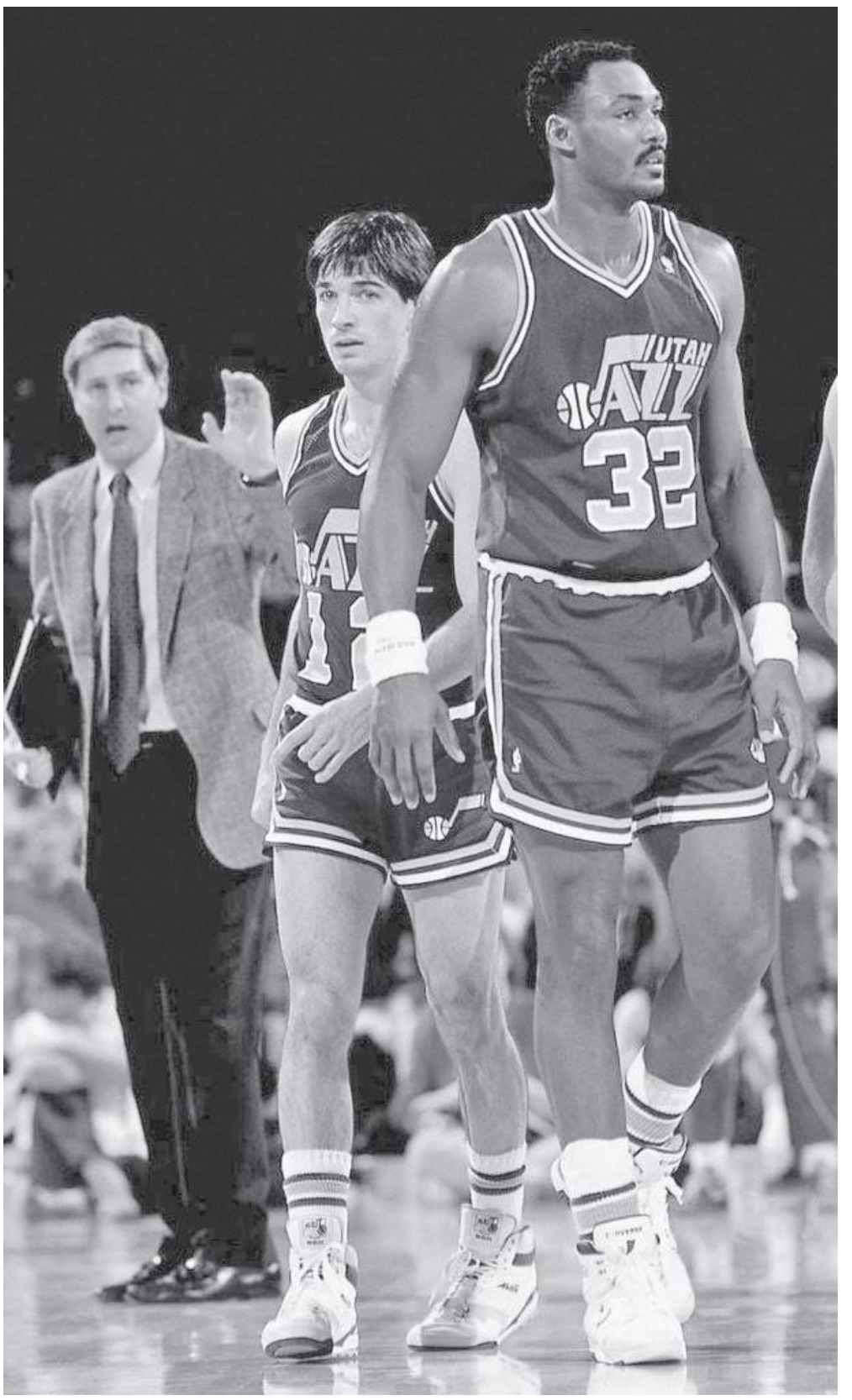
The ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex is a 255-acre campus with multiple arenas that could host games simultaneously and has been home to, among other things, the Jr. NBA World Championship in recent years. ESPN is primarily owned by Disney, one of the NBA's broadcast partners.

Space won't be an issue, even if Major League Soccer—which is also in talks to resume its season at Disney—is there at the same time as the NBA. The entire Disney complex is roughly 40 square miles, with nearly 24,000 hotel rooms owned or operated by Disney within the campus.

The NBA suspended its season March 11, becoming the first of the U.S. major pro leagues to do so after it became known that All-Star center Rudy Gobert of the Utah Jazz tested positive for COVID-19. The list of NBA players who were known to test positive eventually grew to 10—not all were identified—and Commissioner Adam Silver said last month that the actual total was even higher.

But the league has been working on countless return-to-play scenarios for several weeks, all with the caveat that testing would be an integral part of any resumption of the season. Teams have been allowed to welcome players back to their training facilities for voluntary sessions since May 8, and more than half of the league's franchises have taken advantage of that opportunity.

The next steps would likely include a loosening of the restrictions for those voluntary workouts—no more than four players are currently allowed inside any facility at a time—and then a plan for when training camps could open. If the league plans to resume play in late July, then camps conceivably could open around the start of that month.



In this undated file photo, Utah Jazz's John Stockton, center, and Karl Malone, right, head back to the court after receiving instructions from coach Jerry Sloan during an NBA game against the Washington Bullets.

Remembering Sloan

Jerry Sloan walked up the steps to the stage at the Basketball Hall of Fame to give his enshrinement speech in 2009, almost as if he were dreading what the next few minutes would bring.

He never wanted the spotlight.

"This is pretty tough for me," Sloan said that night.

Talking about himself, that wasn't easy. But basketball, he always made that seem simple.

Sloan, who spent 23 years as coach of the Utah Jazz and took the team to the NBA Finals in 1997 and 1998, died Friday at 78. The team said that for four years he had Parkinson's disease and Lewy body dementia.

Sloan presided over the glory days of the John Stockton and Karl Malone pick-and-roll-to-perfection era in Salt Lake City. He is fourth on the NBA's victory list.

"Before coming to Utah, I was certainly aware of Coach Sloan and what he meant to the NBA and to the coaching world," Jazz coach Quin Snyder said Friday. "But, upon living in Utah, I became acutely aware of just how much he truly meant to the state."

Sloan was a two-time All-Star as a player with the Chicago Bulls, led his alma mater, Evansville, to a pair of NCAA college division national championships and was an assistant coach on the 1996 U.S. Olympic team that won a gold medal at the Atlanta Games. He fell in love with the game as a student in a one-room Illinois schoolhouse, never forgetting his roots.

"His more than 40 years in the NBA also paralleled a period of tremendous growth in the league, a time when we benefited greatly from his humility, kindness, dignity and class," NBA Commissioner Adam Silver said.

Sloan often said numbers meant nothing to him. That's a shame, because he has so many to marvel.

Sloan had 1,221 NBA coaching wins, behind only Lenny Wilkens, Don Nelson and Gregg Popovich. And Sloan's 23 seasons with the Jazz are the second-longest string with one team in NBA history; Popovich is in his 24th season with the San Antonio Spurs.

"We lost one of the giants of basketball, not only of the NBA variety but basketball in general," said longtime NBA executive Rod Thorn, who hired Sloan as coach of the Bulls in 1979. "No one ever played harder. He was a very, very good player and then became one of the top coaches in the history of the NBA."

Out of Sloan's 23 seasons with the Jazz, the team finished below the .500 mark only once. He's one of five coaches to roam the sidelines for at least 2,000 games, and the only one of those five with a winning percentage better than .600.

And he was revered as a player with the Bulls, and his No. 4 jersey was the first retired by the franchise.

"Loyalty was his badge of honor and his no-nonsense approach to competition was perfect for the game," said Miami Heat President Pat Riley, the fellow Hall of Famer who called it a privilege to coach against Sloan. "Jerry will go down in history as one of the most admired great winners and respected teachers of basketball ever."

Tiger emerges for TV match with Lefty, QBs

FLORIDA (AP)—The purpose is to raise $10 million or more for COVID-19 relief efforts, and provide entertainment with four of the biggest stars from the PGA Tour and NFL.

Another appeal to the Sunday made-for-TV exhibition, "The Match: Champions for Charity," is a chance to see Tiger Woods swing a golf club for the first time in 98 days.

Live golf is on television for the second straight Sunday, this one with the game's biggest headliner.

Woods was last seen on television Feb. 16 at the Genesis Invitational, where he moved cautiously in California's chilly late winter weather and posted weekend rounds of 76-77 to finish last among the 68 players who made the cut at Riviera.

He skipped a World Golf Championship in Mexico City, and said his surgically repaired back wasn't quite ready in sitting out the opening three weeks of the Florida swing. And then the pandemic took over, and there has been no place to play.

This is a reasonable start. Woods and retired NFL quarterback Peyton Manning will face Phil Mickelson and Tom Brady, who won six Super Bowls with the New England Patriots and signed this year with Tampa Bay.

The match will be at Medalist Golf Club in Hobe Sound, Florida. It is Woods' home course and about 20 minutes from Seminole, where last week Rory McIlroy, Dustin Johnson, Rickie Fowler and Matthew Wolff ushered golf's return to live television.

What to make of Woods?

His only interviews were with GolfTV, the Discovery-owned channel with whom Woods has a financial deal, and a playful Zoom call with the other match participants hosted by Ernie Johnson of Turner Sports, which is televising the match.

He described his health in the April 9 interview with GolfTV as "night and day."

"I feel a lot better than I did then," Woods said. "I've been able to turn a negative into a positive and been able to train a lot and get my body to where I think it should be."

Mickelson has missed the cut in four of his five tournaments this year -- the exception was third place at Pebble Beach, where he started the final round one shot behind Nick Taylor and closed with a 75.

Just like last week, rust is to be expected for players who haven't competed in two months—three, in the case of Woods.

Manning, meanwhile, is retired and is a golf junkie. Brady remains employed, and this week got in some informal work with his new teammates in Tampa Bay.

No fans will be allowed, just like last week at Seminole. One difference is the players will be in their own carts, whereas the four PGA Tour players last week carried their bags.

But this is as much about entertainment as competition.

It's the second edition of a match between Woods and Mickelson, the dominant players of their generation and rivals by name, but not necessarily by record. Woods has 82 career victories to 44 for Mickelson, leads 15-5 in major championships and 11-0 in winning PGA Tour player of the year.

Mickelson won their first made-for-TV match over Thanksgiving weekend in 2018, a pay-per-view event that ran into technical problems and was free for all. Lefty won in a playoff under the lights for $9 million in a winner-take-all match.

MLB might face 2020 season sans key players

NEW YORK—No fans at the games? That's already the plan.

But what happens to the 2020 baseball season if it gets started in July without Angels superstar Mike Trout? Or without the defending champs' All-Star closer, Sean Doolittle?

Or without Cubs ace Yu Darvish?

Those questions are among realistic scenarios that are part of what's at stake as Major League Baseball and the players union negotiate the health and safety protocols required for an agreement to start the season during the COVID-19 pandemic—a process that began late this week after MLB offered a 67-page proposal earlier in the week.

Financial terms, which have yet to be discussed in detail since the sides reached agreement on an initial salary deal in March, have gotten most of the public attention in recent weeks (a new proposal by MLB reportedly is to be presented to the union Tuesday).

But nothing can happen on that until the testing and safety guidelines are worked out, which for many players could be a much bigger issue.

And that could remain an issue even after an agreement to start play is eventually reached.

While the sides had not reached that point in negotiations as of Friday, it's clear based on multiple conversations that the union considers an important part of any agreement be protections for an individual who may choose to opt out of playing during the pandemic.

And it may not even be an especially contentious issue.

Commissioner Rob Manfred already told CNN last week "if there are players with either health conditions or just their own personal doubts, we would never try to force them to come back to work. They can wait until they feel they're ready to come."

It's not hard to imagine the potential competitive impact on an already altered season if even a few of the highest-profile players opt out.

Trout told ESPN his top concern during this "scary" time involves caring for his pregnant wife, who is due in August. MLB's initial safety guidelines would seem to make participating in her regular care difficult if he abides by the plan, and perhaps even impossible when the time comes to be at a hospital.

"I'll be there," he told ESPN. "I'm not missing the birth of my first child. I know that."

What would Trout's absence do to the big-spending Angels' plans to contend under new manager Joe Maddon?

And what about the Nationals' plans to defend their World Series title without their closer, Doolittle, who has publicly expressed concern about a pre-existing condition that puts his wife at greater risk if infected?

And what about a Cubs team that even before the pandemic appeared to be—as first baseman Anthony Rizzo put it—"a bad start away from this team being blown up by the [trade] deadline."

What happens to that calculus if the first player this spring to publicly show concern for the lethality of the virus chooses to skip the 2020 half-season out of an abundance of caution for himself and his family?

"I'm really worried about it," Darvish said the first week of March, before MLB's first memo to teams on the subject was distributed and more than a week before spring training was shut down.

Darvish, who on March 5 got tested when he experienced a cough rather than risk exposing teammates, had talked to team officials as soon as camp started about concerns dealing with a disproportionate number of media traveling from Asia.

Darvish's agent declined to address the question when asked his client's thoughts on playing under MLB's proposal and in light of Manfred's comment. Darvish did not respond this week to multiple requests on the subject made directly to him.

The Cubs also have players with potentially higher-risk factors for COVID-19, including cancer survivors Rizzo and Jon Lester.

To be clear, no player is known to have publicly said he won't play at this point; none can even be certain yet what the final the details of any agreement on safety measures will be.

Meanwhile, almost every player who has spoken publicly—including Trout—has expressed a desire to play this year, a sentiment expressed to Cubs officials from players in internal communications.

And agent Scott Boras, for example, has said he has received no pushback from his client base on returning to play since some of MLB's plans were leaked. His clients include Cubs centerfielder Albert Almora Jr. and third baseman Kris Bryant—the team's player rep for the union, who became a first-time father last month.

But a season already assured of looking unlike any other before might also be assured of at least a few recognizable players skipping the season altogether because of inherent risk, no matter what the final agreement looks like.

Players with the greatest financial security also have the greatest freedom to exercise that choice. Trout's the highest paid player in the game; Darvish is in the third year of a six-year, $126 million deal.

Such an impact could be as immediate as it is dramatic, competitively, for a team like the Cubs.

They already spent last winter fielding offers for players up and down the roster before essentially standing pat with a group that missed the playoffs last year - and without enough in the payroll budget left to significantly add.

It could mark an especially swift decline and selloff if any key player opts out of participating in a half-season attempt to win one more time with a core that won a title in 2016—much less the majors' all-time leader in strikeout rate coming off a dominant second half in 2019.

"I think each player has to make an individual choice. Are they willing to assume the risk?" said Chicago-based infectious-disease specialist Dr. Robert Citronberg. "No matter what strategy is employed, there's going to be risk involved. It's just a question of how much risk tolerance you have." ***(NBC/AP)***

AP

In this March 6, 2020 file photo, Chicago Cubs' Yu Darvish pitches in a simulated game at spring training in Sloan Park in Mesa, Arizona.

Osaka tops Serena on Forbes' list of sports annual earnings

WASHINGTON—Naomi Osaka has been a Grand Slam champion and No. 1 in the WTA rankings—and now she's No. 1 on another list: top-earning female athlete.

According to a story posted on Forbes.com on Friday, the 22-year-old player earned $37.4 million over the past 12 months from endorsements and prize money, eclipsing Serena Williams in that span.

Forbes said Osaka's total is a one-year record for a female athlete, topping the previous mark of 29.7 million set by Maria Sharapova in 2015.

Osaka is No. 29 overall, with Williams at No. 33, on Forbes' annual list of the 100 top-earning athletes.

Williams had led the way among women each of the past four years.

Osaka beat Williams in the 2018 U.S. Open final and then added the 2019 Australian Open title, allowing her to become the first player from Asia to be No. 1 in the women's or men's tennis rankings.

Osaka has won about $14.5 million in career prize money, according to the WTA, a little less than half of which was earned in 2019.

Djokovic leads tennis fundraiser

With professional tennis shut down by the novel coronavirus pandemic, world No. 1one Novak Djokovic is bringing together some of the world's top tennis players for a series of matches to run from June 13-July 5 in the Balkan region.

All pro tennis tours were suspended in early March and will not return before August as countries went into lockdown and closed borders to contain the spread of the virus.

Some players, including Djokovic, have returned to the practice courts while maintaining strict hygiene and social distancing norms, and some exhibition events without fans have also been held in countries like Germany and the United States.

"I'm proud to officially share the news that the #AdriaTour will be held across the #Balkans 13 June-5 July kicking off with a tournament in Belgrade," Djokovic, who turned 33 on Friday, said in a Twitter post.

"Very grateful we could make this happen to play and support humanitarian projects across the region."

World No. 3 Dominic Thiem of Austria and Bulgarian Grigor Dimitrov, who is ranked 19, have confirmed their participation in the eight-man event which will end with Djokovic's exhibition match against Bosnian Damir Dzumhur in Sarajevo, the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Zadar, in Croatia, Montenegro and Banja Luka in Bosnia will be the other venues for the matches, which will be broadcast on television.

Djokovic, who won his 17th Grand Slam title at the 2020 Australian Open, has been 18-0 this year in all matches.

He lifted the ATP Cup with Serbia, won an eighth Australian Open title and then completed a fifth triumph at the Dubai Tennis Championships, extending his unbeaten run to 21 matches dating back to last season. ***(NBC)***

Fitzpatrick awaits battle with Tua for Dolphins' QB job

MIAMI (AP)—Miami Dolphins quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick's house was quiet at midday Thursday, probably because online schoolwork occupied his kids.

He has seven. And despite the pandemic lockdown, there are often enough youngsters gathered for the Fitzpatrick family to field a football team.

"My brother lives next door, and he has five kids. That's 12 every day running around," Fitzpatrick said from his home in Arizona. "It has been a little bit crazy."

This will be Fitzpatrick's 15th NFL offseason, and none has been like this. Normally he'd be taking part in spring workouts at the team complex, but because of the coronavirus, training sessions are conducted via Zoom.

Two things haven't changed. Fitzpatrick's beard still ranks among the best in sports, even with barbershops closed because of the pandemic. And he faces a battle for playing time whenever training camp starts.

The journeyman had one of his best seasons in 2019, leading a turnaround from an 0-7 start to a 5-11 finish. At age 37, he was voted the Dolphins' most valuable player.

They nonetheless used their top draft pick on a quarterback, and if things go as the Dolphins hope, Tua Tagovailoa will supplant Fitzpatrick as the starter this year. They're in the midst of a rebuilding project, with Fitzpatrick the only player on the roster in his 30s.

But he's long accustomed to job insecurity. Even last year he was demoted to No. 2 behind Josh Rosen for a three-game stretch early in the season.

And he embraces the role of mentoring Tagovailoa, regardless of who's No. 1.

"I've been in this situation before a little bit," Fitzpatrick said. "I'm excited for him to be here. I loved watching him play in college. He's going to be an awesome addition to the team for a long time. I'm going to do the best I can to help him."

AP

In this Dec. 29, 2019 file photo, Miami Dolphins quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick passes under pressure in the first half of an NFL game against the New England Patriots in Foxborough, Mass.

Make no mistake, though: Fitzpatrick hopes Tagovailoa spends his rookie season on the bench.

"I'm as competitive as they come," Fitzpatrick said. "I want to start. I know there are a lot of forces that go into it. Whether it happens or not, who knows?"

Defensive tackle Davon Godchaux, who also held a virtual interview session Thursday, noted that the QB battle plays into what coach Brian Flores wants at all positions.

"That's big, drafting Tua," Godchaux said. "Coach Flo is always going to look to create competition. That's what elevates your team to the next level. By him doing things like that, the sky's the limit for our team in the future."

The pandemic, however, has slowed offseason momentum. The Dolphins signed 11 free agents and drafted 12 rookies, but holdovers like Fitzpatrick have yet to meet the newcomers.

"It's difficult not being there," he said. "There are going to be a lot of new faces, a lot of youth. You want to get on the field and start practicing and learning the system and each other."

Fitzpatrick's also eager to start working again with new offensive coordinator Chan Gailey. They spent five seasons together with the Bills and Jets.

From a personal standpoint, Fitzpatrick sees one bright side to the pandemic.

NMI's

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was 12 and played for the Tan-Holdings Football Club, was honored with the recognition and thanked his teammates and coaches, present and past, for helping him get better every season.

"I am grateful for this award and I would not have gotten this without the help of my teammates and coaches," said Tiamzon, recalling how he trained under the guidance of Bogs Tanghal when Tan-Holdings FC won two straight championships (U15 titles in 2014 and 2015) in the NMIFA Youth League.

The 20-year-old also remembered donning the colors of the CNMI in the AFC U14 Championship 2014 Qualifiers in Beijing, China in 2013. The team, which was coached by Wai Wo "Jacky" Lee and Jershwin Angeles, defeated Guam, 1-0, for the first time in an age group competition sanctioned by the Asian Football Confederation.

Angeles took note of Tiamzon's commitment with the NMI U14 and his promising skills as an offensive player seven years ago.

"Jherico was committed with the NT training before going to China. He was eager to learn and always tried his best doing what the coaches told him. He has the speed, good ball control, and good attacking awareness that's why the team relied on him when attacking," Angeles said.

With UoG this season, Tiamzon's highlight game was when he helped the Tritons rally past the Sidekicks Soccer Club in the 2nd Guam Football Association's Budweiser Premier League at the GFA National Training Center. UoG was down at halftime, 0-1, when Tuamzon drilled a pair of goals in the second half, allowing the Tritons to steal the victory.

After being honored for his performance in the shortened season, Tiamzon is more motivated to get better and help his team win competitions.

"I want us to shoot for the stars and try to get first place because I know if we work hard enough, we'll be able to get first and land that star."

MIYAWAKI

From Page 20

tic leagues (both the Public School System and Commonwealth Coalition of Private School Association-organizes competitions) and athletics (track and cross country).

Miyawaki has been involved in these sports activities while dealing with her studies and college preparations and other school responsibilities, such as being the president of the Geckos' student council.

When asked how and why she decided to live a "double life," she said that she loves challenging herself.

"I think I was able to do that by pushing myself to go over my limit. No matter how tired I was, I always told myself that I have to study. When I had to study, I was able to wake up at anytime. So I would wake up three or fours before school starts and studied then," Miyawaki said.

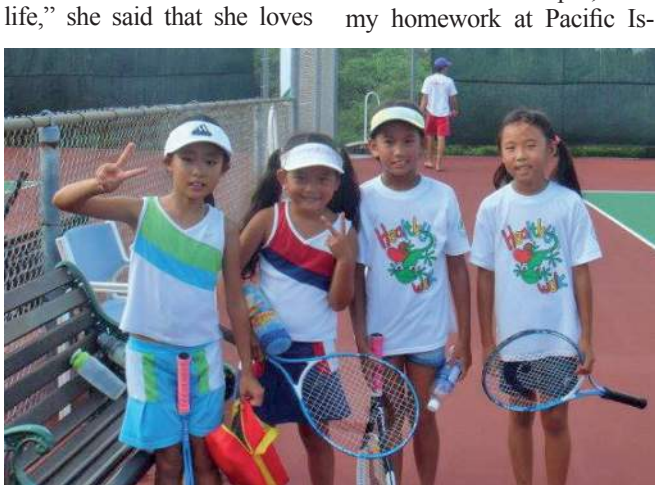
The SIS valedictorian added that time management is key.

"I also tried to always make good use of time. For example, if I had mentoring from 3pm to 3:30pm and then tennis lesson from 5:15pm, I did my homework at Pacific Islands Club before my lesson," said Miyawaki, who started offering basic tennis lessons for free to young kids months after Saipan was hammered by Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018.

Miyawaki is bound for Atlanta, Georgia, as she got a full ride scholarship at Emory University.

She looks forward to more challenges, as she moves up to the collegiate level. And of course, she wants to continue playing tennis.

"I am planning to play club tennis in college. I want to study hard but also continue playing sports. I cannot imagine myself not playing any sports," Miyawaki said.



NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS TENNIS ASSOCIATION

A young Malika Miyawaki, second left, poses with her fellow beginner players before a practice session at the Pacific Islands Club hard court.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Malika Miyawaki is all smiles after her high school graduation at Saipan International School last Saturday.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

In this file photo, Saipan International School's Malika Miyawaki tosses the ball during the third set of their game against Grace Christian Academy in the 2017-2018 Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League at the SIS court in As Lito.

Late July return for NBA at Disney

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MLB might face 2020 season sans key players

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Miyawaki: Top athlete, top student

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Malika Miyawaki gets ready at the baseline during a local tournament at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Many-time CNMI National Junior Tennis Team member Malika Miyawaki proved once again that one can mix sports and school and excel in both, as she graduated valedictorian of the Class of 2020 at the Saipan International School last Saturday.

Miyawaki shared the class' top honor with Anika Snyder, another student-athlete, as the latter was on SIS' track team and the CNMI National Team that competed in the Oceania Micronesian Regional Championships 2018 and in the Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships (2018 and 2019).

As for Miyawaki, she represented the CNMI in the North Pacific Junior Championships and the Pacific Oceania Junior Championships numerous times after joining the sport when she was just 6 years old. She also competed for the NMI in Australia and New Zealand as part of the ITF Pacific Oceania Touring Team, the Northern Marianas Junior Championships, and last year's Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

She regularly trains for tennis matches here and off-island while playing for SIS in volleyball in interscholas-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Malika Miyawaki, seated fifth left, joins her fellow runners on Team Marianas for a group photo after competing in the 2018 Asia Pacific Invitational Cross Country Championships.

NMI's Tiamzon feted at UoG

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI Boys U14 National Team member Jherico Tiamzon was recognized as one of the top athletes of University of Guam.

Tiamzon, who plays for the Tritons in men's soccer was selected Best Offensive Player, joining his three other teammates on the awardees list for the 2019-2020 season. The Triton Athletics Department of UoG named Tiamzon and 15 other awardees, including Student Athlete of the Year Colleen Naden (women's soccer) last Thursday.

Tiamzon, who started in the sport when he

See NMI's on Page 19

GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
University of Guam's Jherico Tiamzon, right, kicks the ball during one of their games in the 2nd Guam Football Association's Budweiser Premier League at the GFA National Training Center this year.